The
Fort Erie Times
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Thursday, January 26, 2017

Development surge

New growth sprouting up in Bridgeburg area

19

Celebrating sports

Community's rich athletic history highlighted at Leisureplex

28

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Hold on to your hat

KRIS DUBE/SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Anita Lemmex, a Ridgeway-based milliner, displays some of her fancy hats and fascinators. See story and photo Page 2.

The fine art of millinery

KRIS DUBE
Special to the Times

Anita Lemmex wants to share the art of millinery with the Fort Erie community through her local business.

The new Ridgeway resident moved here from Burlington in late 2015 and has an extensive collection of fancy hats and fascinators already made, ready to be sold.

With the upcoming Canadian sesquicentennial later this year, Lemmex bopes sbe can partner with local organizations during the celebrations.

Millinery, the manufacturing of fine hats for men and women, is also very popular in the borse racing industry.

Lemmex has participated in a competition during the Queen's Plate at Woodbine Racetrack and has been a vendor at the Fort Erie Race Track.

She is hoping the upcoming season at the historic facility and the 82nd run of the Prince of Wales Stakes race will bring her some business.

"Last year, I learned a lot and I'm going to be a lot more prepared," she said.

"It was a great learning experience and a way to make yourself known in the area as a milliner."

She graduated from a course at George Brown College, studying under David Dunkley, considered one of the best in the world at the craft.

"Nothing but good things came out of taking that course," said Lemmex, a 52-year-old who says she began sewing in junior high school.

A fascinator can be no wider than four inches – otherwise it loses the fancy name and is simply called a hat, she explained.

However, there are no limitations when it comes to the art form, which dates back to the late 18th century.

"Everything goes – people have made very strange things," she said.

Lemmex has also dedicated many hours and days to a travelling quilt paying tribute to people who have lived with, passed away from, or in some way supported causes to combat breast cancer.

The quilt is designed to encourage women to seek medical treatment or any type of support they can from friends and family after they are diagnosed – even if it's just something as simple as talking about their condition, or asking for a hand to hold.

"I think that's the most important part of a woman's journey – but some need to be strong enough to ask for help," she said.

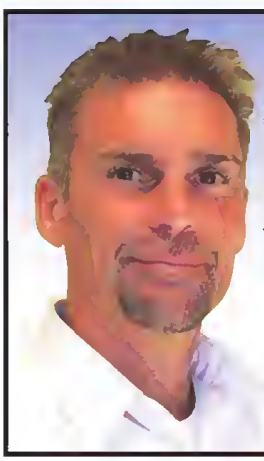
Her company is called Created by Mouse but her millinery line is called Hilde Fine Millinery, named after her mother, who passed away from breast cancer last year.

"Every stitch I do is for her," she said.

For more information, call 289-876-8256 or visit www.createdbymouse.ca. Created by Mouse is also on Facebook and Instagram.

KRIS DUBE/SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Local milliner Anita Lemmex with a quilt she has created to honour women with breast cancer as well as people who have supported causes to fight the disease.



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Suspects sought in Fort Erie jewelry store robbery

Police are hunting for two suspects following a break in at a Fort Erie jewelry store. According to Niagara Regional Police, two suspects smashed the front window of Bridgeburg Jewellers on Jarvis Street shortly before 5 p.m. Thursday and stole numerous pieces of jewelry.

The first suspect is described as a white male, 20 to 25 years of age, with a slim build. He was last seen wearing a dark jacket, orange shirt and blue pants.

The second suspect is described as a white male, 20 to 25 years of age, with dark hair and a medium build. He was last seen wearing a dark jacket and blue jeans.

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Bay Beach road dispute settled

KRIS DUBE
Special to the Times

A current Fort Erie councillor and some of his colleagues from last term are celebrating what they see as a victory over a legal dispute on a much-debated development project.

At a recent Ontario land tribunal hearing, it was determined that the Town of Fort Erie did not have absolute title to the property which was once the site of a proposal from the Molinaro Group to build a 12-storey condominium, a project that was terminated in 2013 and was seen as a highly contentious and divisive issue in town since 2008.

For years, it was argued by critics of the development and nearby property owners that a road allowance at the site had not been closed, a position disputed by town staff, and that there was a second, privately-owned road ran through the property.

In the decision, deputy director of titles Carolyn Rosenstein wrote in her 92-page document that there was a private road held by the estate of Susanna Schooley or her heirs at the time of the Town of Fort Erie purchasing the East Private Road from Bay Beach. The decision also validated the existence of an unclosed road allowance.

The ruling was in response to an application filed in 2011.

Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts, the representative for the Crystal Beach area, during last term, regularly insisted that the road allowance existed and had never been closed.

The highly-debated project eventually led to lawsuits against the municipality and individual councillors, conflict of interest allegations and hearings, and more.

The town's director of legal services was also terminated by council amid this issue being debated.

Lubberts, along with former councillors Bob Steckley, John Hill and Paul Collard, strongly opposed the condo project and sometimes voted together in a bloc – leading to the 'four councillors' title often used in newspaper headlines and by local residents on social media.

At last Monday's council-in-committee meeting, Lubberts fought to discuss a report in open session, rather than incamera, which is how it was scheduled on the agenda.

Before council met behind closed doors to receive a legal opinion on the decision from staff, Lubberts took a few minutes to reflect on and boast about what he considers a win, congratulating his comrades from the previous term of council and acknowledging Collard, Hill and Steckley in the audience.

"Despite all the distractions we were subjected to, all the lawsuits we were subjected to, all the comments that were made about us – trying to discredit us or assassinate our characters or ruin us – the ruling came forward and we were right all the time," said Lubberts.

"I want to commend these gentlemen who sat on council with me at that time because we took a pretty heavy hit for four years," said Lubberts, the only current member of council who was re-elected in the 2014 municipal contest.

Paul Collard, who served as council's Stevensville representative last term, spoke with the Times about the tribunal's decision.

"I'm not surprised with it – I believed there were issues all along with the title of the property," said Collard.

Last year, the current council approved converting the Bay Beach site to a public park with various amenities, a project set to cost more than $2 million with $850,000 of that amount being covered through the regional government's waterfront strategy.

"It's something that fits perfectly with what I would envision the waterfront to be," said Collard.

"It could have been started in 2001 and not in 2016," he added.

The Town of Fort Erie purchased the Bay Beach lands in 2001 for $2.05 million with a plan to develop the lands and provide a return on investment.

This week, the Town of Fort Erie issued a press release about the recent conclusion of the title issue.

"The decision of the Deputy Director of Land Titles does not affect the Town's ownership of the lands and it has no further impact on the Town's current plans for the park. Council is moving forward with its plan to implement improvements to the park beginning this year," says the statement provided by the municipality.

According to the Town's master plan, the improvements are expected to generate revenue through event fees and permits, locker rentals, food truck permits, vendor permits, parking fines and fees, and charging non-residents an admission fee for adults 16 and over, beginning in 2017.

After the improvements are made, the operation will cost an estimated $260,000 annually but the site is estimated to generate a "potential annual net revenue of $88,000" a year, municipal staff said in early 2016.

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Local culinary graduate to appear on Chopped Canada

KRIS DUBE
Special to the Times

When Pauline Cotter enrolled in Fort Erie Secondary School's culinary program it was because she had a mild interest in cooking, hut knew it's one of life's necessities.

That experience has led to her appearance on the Food Network's Chopped Canada Teen, in an episode airing Satuday, Feb. 11 at 9 p.m.

Sworn to secrecy about the outcome of the show or anything involving its content, the Fort Erie resident and current student in Niagara College's culinary management program says it was unlike any other cookoff she's been in.

"Being at this level of competition was extremely exciting for me," said Potter, who is also a line cook at Old Bank Bistro.

Previous contests she has competed in are the District School Board of Niagara's skills and competition and a team contest at Niagara College, placing first and third in each one in 2015 and 2016.

She attests that her taste for a career in the culinary world was undoubtedly created by deciding in Grade 10 that she would sign up for the hospitality and tourism high-skills major class at FESS, taught by Afshin Keyvani.

"It was a really great way for me to get into cooking and it just stuck with me," she said.

"Whether it's cooking for a career or for yourself to eat, you kind of need to learn at some point," she added.

Potter's background is Native American, and she has a knack for indigenous cuisine.

"I've been learning from members of my community, learning traditional recipes," she said.

In her graduating year at FESS, Potter was head chef at the Pomegranate Restaurant, a weekly offering from the school program to the community that has received rave reviews since its establishment in 2008.

The episode Cotter appears in is titled 'Mirin, Mirin On The Wall,' according to her profile on the TV show's website.

She was one of 20 contestants throughout the season competing for a top prize of $10,000.

In each episode, four chefs between the ages of 14 and 17 face off under a tight timeline to transform haskets of mystery ingredients into a three-course meal.

Cotter says she will be joined hy friends and family at a viewing party when the episode hits the small screen on Feb. 11.

New osteopath in Ridgeway

KRIS DUBE
Special to the Times

The Ridgeway Wellness Centre is welcoming a new face to its team.

Monday was the first day for Osteopathic Manual Practitioner Mariana Lugo, a certified member of the Society of Osteopaths of Canada.

Available at the Ridge Road business on Mondays, Lugo says she is eager to become a part of the community and help people experiencing pain, specializing in the lower back and jaw areas, which she says will compliment Choice Independent Dental Hygiene being a part of the Ridgeway Wellness Centre.

She described her approach as "very gentle, hands on."

Lugo also works at another clinic in Niagara Falls four days a week.

Born in Argentina, Lugo practiced in Montreal for almost three years before moving to Niagara last July.

She earned her medical degrees at the National University of Asuncion in Singapore and the National University of Medical Science in Spain.

She also practices low-intensity laser therapy at the wellness centre.

"It's a great program that really helps the patients," she said.

In Montreal, she worked at the Jewish General Hospital and McGill University.

To book an appointment with her at the Ridgeway Wellness Centre call 905-894-1551.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Mariana Lugo is now practising at the Ridgeway Wellness Centre.

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The Fort Erie Times

Peter Conradi regional editor
Sarah Ferguson editor

Point of View

Dementia more than just numbers

January is Alzheimer Awareness Month and we are all connected to people who are trying to find their way with this disease, and we must all act now to end dementia.

Each year, 25,000 Canadians hear the words, 'You have dementia.'

But dementia is more than just numbers. It is our friends, families and members of our communities that are experiencing the personal and social impact of dementia. For our health-care system and economy this means higher demand for services and soaring costs.

Dementia doesn't discriminate and can affect anyone. It's one of the fastest-growing diseases of our time, but still has no cure or effective treatments. Dementia can last between eight and 10 years, or even longer. Currently, there are 564,000 Canadians living with a dementia, which will increase 66 per cent to 937,000 by 2031. Your risk of developing dementia is 45 per cent greater if you smoke.

We have a unique challenge in Niagara, due to the fact that we have one of the highest percentages of seniors per capita in Canada and we lack the available geriatric resources compared to other communities. Currently, there are more than 9,855 people in the region who are experiencing a progressive dementia.

Dementia doesn't define a person. They are still the same individual as they were before their diagnosis and can continue doing the things they and love and remain active in their communities with the right help and support. That is why it is so important to connect with Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region's First Link Program by simply calling 905-687-3914.

Positive attitudes and engagement of people with dementia in activities that build on their strengths and life history will foster their self-worth, maintain their identity and prolong their independence. Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region's mission is to advocate with and for people with dementia and their care partners, and provide access to a diverse range of appropriate resources and supports. By providing education, personalized in-home support services and wellness programs, families can better understand dementia, navigate the health system and access the resources they need when they need them.

The Alzheimer society offers many programs and educational opportunities across the region.

Brain Wave Cafes are offered twice a month in Niagara Falls, Thorold, Grimsby, St. Catharines and Welland. They provide an informal setting for individuals concerned about cognitive changes and dementia to learn about brain health and dementia, meet and socialize with others and become familiar with community resources.

Another popular program is Minds In Motion, a physical activity and brain simulation program that runs for two hours a week for an eight-week session at the YMCA in St. Catharines and Welland.

Caregiver support groups and educational sessions are also offered monthly. Visit alzheimerniagara.ca for details.

Dementia can only be beat if everyone takes action. Get involved

— Teena Kindt is CEO of Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region

Do You Remember?

We received a great response to last week's photo which shows Anna Lafranca, in the foreground, and Carmella Maulucci at Irvin Industries in Fort Erie around 1988. The women are working on parachutes which would have been assembled by several individuals responsible for different components. Anna Lafranca, who worked at Irvin for about 28 years, is sewing the main seam of the parachute in this photo. Most work was done on a machine, but some jobs were completed by hand. Thank you to Amy Roebuck, Roger Ripa - a former supervisor at Irvin - Patty Mountain, an anonymous caller, and Anna Lafranca herself for calling in to add this valuable information to our records. The photo this week was taken at a pharmacy formerly located in Fort Erie. Does anyone recognize the man taking inventory or where he is working? If so, please call the museum at 905-894-5322 or send us an e-mail - museum@forterie.ca

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JULIE JOCSAK/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Eric Mariglia has organized a conference to raise awareness about rare diseases facing Canadians..

Rare diseases subject of Brock discussion

RAY SPITERI
Postmedia Network

It's time to take the price tag off peoples' lives, says Brock University student Eric Mariglia.

The 21-year-old health-care advocate says it's estimated one in 12 Canadians — approximately three million people or nine per cent of the Canadian population — suffer from a rare disease.

Yet, says the Oakville native, Canada is the only country with universal health care that has not implemented an orphan drug plan to protect rare-disease patients.

Mariglia learned about rare-disease struggles and difficulties within Canada more than a year ago.

He says last year he went to Mohawk College to do his public-relations post degree as part of a collaborative program with Brock.

While there, Mariglia did an internship with a public-relations firm in downtown Toronto, where he learned about some advocacy campaigns and how these campaigns can seek support from government.

He also learned about rare-disease problems within Canada's health-care system and was surprised to find out a majority of Canadians were not aware of such issues.

"I really wanted to do something for this group of people that I feel weren't getting the support they needed," says Mariglia.

"I thought a great way of going about it would be to start teaching a lot of young people and a lot of youth to get behind it because that could be an even bigger voice for a lot of these rare-disease patient groups that really ... suffer and lack access to the medication that they need."

For the past four months, Mariglia has recruited members from various organizations throughout Brock who have a shared desire to bring rare-disease awareness to fellow youth.

"I was overwhelmed with the amount of support this issue has received," he says.

"It was an issue that had zero visibility, but now that people are aware, they are passionate and want to see something done to help. They want change. They want to right the injustice."

Mariglia has organized a media conference at Brock, taking place Friday in the Guernsey Market Hall located below the library, where there will be a panel discussing how a better system can be created for pharmaceuticals in Canada and how having an orphan drug plan is crucial to include in the health system.

Orphan drugs are drugs used to treat rare diseases.

The conference, scheduled between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m., will include speeches and a question-and-answer session.

Panel members are scheduled to include MP John Oliver, a member of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's health committee, representatives from the Canadian Organization for Rare Disorders and a patient advocate.

"I've even got calls and messages from across the country from patient groups and families of rare-disease patients that have heard about my event and wanted to somehow get involved, so it's really gone coast-to-coast," says Marigilia.

What: Brock students advocate for patients with rare diseases
When: Friday, 3-4 p.m. in Guernsey Market Hall, Brock University

Who: Patient advocates, members of pharmaceutical industry, family members, politicians, more than 50 Brock students

He says there's more than 7,000 diagnosed rare diseases around the world.

Mariglia says a mother from British Columbia, who heard about his event, told him about her eight-year-old daughter who needs five to six painful injections a week to manage her rare disease.

Another drug is available that would be administered every four to six months, however, that drug is not funded in B.C.

If that child was living in Ontario, she would be covered, says Mariglia.

"Her geography puts her at a disadvantage.

"Quite simply, the system is broken. We need to advocate for fair and equal access for all. There is no reason that in a nation such as Canada, people are still dying because they are not getting the medications they require."

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Duelling parents allege abuse

Amber Alert girl subject of bitter legal dispute

ALLAN BENNER
Postmedia Network

While accusing her ex-husband of abusing their daughter, Allana Haist was accused of manipulating information within affidavits being considered as part of an ongoing custody battle regarding her daughter Layla Sabry.

Haist was the first witness called to testify during a hearing in Welland, Monday, to determine if Ontario Superior Court has jurisdiction in the case regarding the girl, who was born and primarily raised in Egypt. The nine-year-old daughter is the subject of a custody battle between Haist and the girl's father, Mohamed Abdel-Motaleb.

Haist and her daughter were the subject of an Amber Alert issued in early December, after Haist went into hiding rather than attend a scheduled court hearing. She was arrested in Hamilton on Dec. 12, concluding a 10-day Canada-wide manhunt.

Haist's St. Catharines-based lawyer, Natalie Fortier, argued that the court should have jurisdiction because "the child is physically present in Ontario and would under balance of probabilities suffer serious harm if she's placed in the custody of the respondent (Abdel-Motaleb) or a member of his family, or if she is returned to Egypt."

Fortier referred to several affidavits submitted by members of the Haist family in support of allegations against the child's father, and said she plans to call several witnesses to the stand as the hearing continues in the days to come.

Through their testimony, Fortier said Superior Court Justice James Ramsay will "hear the story of Layla, of how she has suffered sexual abuse at the hands of her father, and how her mother, the applicant, has tried to protect her — first in Egypt by reaching out to services to try and get help for her daughter.

"The court will hear that when she was met by a society and system that has an archaic view of sexual abuse and was faced with no prospect of obtaining protection for her daughter, the applicant did what she had to do — what any mother would do to protect her child," Fortier said. "The court will hear she escaped Egypt. She came to Canada where she expected the law to protect her child."

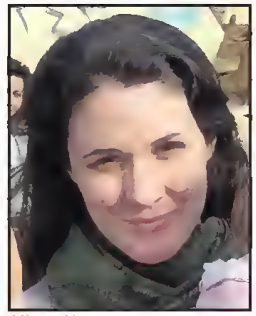
Fortier said Layla disclosed having being sexually abused by her father and others, and she disclosed this to a number of people, including her mother, a therapist in Egypt, a doctor in Egypt, the Consul of the Canadian Embassy in Egypt and his assistant.

"She disclosed it to some of her friends in Egypt and in Canada, and to health professional," she said. "The court will hear that almost all of them believed her."

Haist said the evidence also includes three pre-recorded videos of Layla "making such disclosures."

Abdel-Motaleb's lawyer Sheila Gibb said until six weeks ago Layla had been deprived of having any contact with her father for the previous 14 months.

And during that time, she said Haist hid Layla "first in Cairo, then through the desert into the Sudan, and finally in this community, breaching numerous court orders both in Egypt and here along the way."


Allana Haist

"In doing so, the child was subjected to trauma that falls to the extreme side of the spectrum," Gibb said.

Layla, she added, was taken away from her home, school, friends and father, and was made to "live on the lam like a fugitive." She said the child "was smuggled by human traffickers through one of the most dangerous geographic regions on Earth, at the border of Sudan."

Gibb, however, said one of the most disturbing aspects of the ordeal was that Layla was "made to play the victim of abuse at the hands of her own father."

While cross-examining Haist, Gibb referred to numerous email messages dating back to late 2012 referenced within Haist's affidavit.

She pointed out discrepancies between the original emails and Haist's references to the emails in the document. For instance, one email written by Haist in 2014 says her daughter "told me the main pain she had was from wanting to see her father."

She said Haist, however, later wrote in her affidavit: "She told me the main pain she had was from the [thought of] seeing her father."

"You manipulated the text of this email for the purpose of this litigation," Gibb said.

"It was not my intention," Haist replied.

Haist said the full texts of the emails referenced within her affidavit were included at the end of her affidavit.

The hearing resumes at 10 a.m. today.

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Niagara Parks police chief retiring

Postmedia Network

After 40 years of policing and community service, Niagara Parks Police Chief Carl Scott has announced his retirement, effective May 31.

"We would like to thank Chief Scott for his proven leadership, years of service and commitment to both the (Niagara Parks) Commission and the Niagara Parks Police Service," said Niagara Parks chairwoman Janice Thomson in a statement issued Monday.

"Chief Scott's passion and commitment to the Niagara Parks Police Service and all that it represents will be missed. We wish Chief Scott and his family all the best."

Scott joined the Niagara Parks Police in 2013, following a 36-year career with Niagara Regional Police.

Prior to his retirement from the NRP in 2013, Scott was a member of the NRP's executive, holding the rank of acting deputy chief of operations, which included responsibility and oversight of district patrol and detective services, and about 30 specialty support units within the NRP's emergency and investigative support division.

He was also a member of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police and member of the OACP emergency preparedness committee.

Scott is a member of Lions International (Chippawa), where he has served as president, and as the local organization's diabetes, sight and hearing committee chairman. He is also a strong supporter of the United Way.

Established in 1887, Niagara Parks Police Service is one of the province's oldest police services.

Today, it comprises 25 full-time and 27 seasonal officers/staff, whose duty it is to patrol the more than 1,300 hectares of parkland and 56 kilometres of scenic parkway for which the parks commission is responsible.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY NIAGARA PARKS COMMISSION

Niagara Parks Police Chief Carl Scott has announced his retirement, effective May 31.

WWW.FORTERIETIMES.CA

Health Corner

A Night Guard Mystery

Why a night guard is good for you.

If you are suffering from tooth wear, it is possible that you were suggested to wear a night guard. A night guard is a wonderful device to protect your teeth from grinding of your teeth together during the sleep. This type of grinding that night guard can be beneficial to you is called "bruxism". It is a side to side movement of your jaws during your sleep mediated by your brain impulses. It is one of those that a person beside you while sleeping can distinctively hear. On average, 5% of the population suffer from a bruxism. And if you are suspecting you might be a bruxer, check with your dentist. A night guard can save your teeth.

Why a night guard can be bad for you.

I don't mean to confuse you but if you are not a true bruxer (not grinding side to side during a sleep), your wears can be from other problems. One of the other problems is a sleep disorder or a sleep apnea. Often people suffering from a sleep apnea show

Dr. John Inigo

remarkable tooth wears somewhat similar to bruxism. This can be quite confusing. But if you have some type of obstructive sleep apnea (OSA), your night guard can make you worse because a night guard can open your lower jaw and push the lower jaw back hence pushing your tongue posturing more behind than usual. This collapse of your tongue can lead to more incidences of sleep apnea. If you suffer from snoring, or not getting enough sleep, or your partner suspects you are suffering from a sleep apnea, it is important that you check your medical doctor who can help you with proper diagnosis. It is important to know which is which so that you are getting a treatment for proper conditions. Please remember sleep apnea is a medical condition, you need to consult with your medical doctor or a sleep doctor.

Dr. John Inigo is a practicing general dentist in Fort Erie and Ridgeway, Ontario. He can be reached at Inigo Bertie Dentistry, 905.871.2903 or Inigo Ridgeway Dentistry, 905.894.5555. For further information and discussion, please visit his office at www.ingodentistry.com.

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News Brief

Teen told to stay out of trouble

Judge tells teenager to stay out of trouble

A youth who appeared before Judge Tory Colvin on Friday in Ontario Court of Justice in St. Catharines was told he can do anything in life, including becoming a judge.

The teen who punched another teen in the nose, causing it to break, received a conditional discharge and was placed on probation for 18 months.

Colvin told the teen he has excellent grades at school, but he needs to learn how to control his temper and stay out of trouble.

"You don't want your temper to take over," said the judge, adding that will only land him back in court.

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NOTICE OF PASSING OF A ZONING BY-LAW

APPLICANT: TOWN OF FORT ERIE FILE NO. 350309-0425

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Fort Erie passed **By-law No. 11-2017** on the 23rd day of January, 2017 under section 34 (18) of The Planning Act, 1990.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or agency may appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board in respect of the by-law by filing with the Clerk of the Town of Fort Erie not later than the **15th day of February, 2017,** a notice of the appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objection. Any appeal must be accompanied by the Board's fee of $300.00. A certified cheque or money order in this amount made payable to the Minister of Finance must accompany the Notice of Appeal.

Only individuals, corporations and public bodies may appeal a zoning by-law to the Ontario Municipal Board. A Notice of Appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a Notice of Appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf. No person or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the council or, in the opinion of the Ontario Municipal Board, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

The complete By-law and map is available for inspection in the Clerk's office during regular office hours and can also be found on the **Town of Fort Erie Website: www.forterie.ca.**

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

The purpose and effect of By-law No. 11-2017 is to amend Town of Fort Erie Comprehensive Zoning By-law No. 129-90 by adding "Section 12A-Residential 2B(R2B)" and by changing the zoning of the lands shown on the location map above from "Residential 2" Zone to "Residential 2B (R2B)" Zone.
The new zone regulations are as follows:

REGULATIONS FOR DWELLINGS ON LOTS WITH LESS THAN 15 METRES OF FRONTAGE

Minimum Lot Frontage -	10 m
Minimum Lot Area -	260 sq.m
Maximum Lot Coverage -	1 storey - 50 percent Anything greater than 1 storey – 40 percent
Minimum Front Yard -	6 m to garage 3 m to other parts of dwelling
Minimum Interior Side Yard -	1 storey – 1.2 m Anything greater than 1 storey – 1.5 m however, on an interior lot where no attached garage or attached carport is provided, the minimum side yard on one side shall be 3 metres
Minimum Exterior Side Yard -	3 m, except that an attached garage or attached carport which faces the exterior side lot line shall be located no closer than 6 m to the exterior side lot line.
Minimum Rear Yard -	1 storey - 5 m Anything greater than 1 storey – 7 m
Maximum Height -	i) 1.5 storey ii) 7.5 m

DATED AT THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE THIS 26TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2017
LAURA BUBANKO, MANAGER, LEGISLATIVE SERVICES/CLERK

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NOTICE OF FORMAL PUBLIC MEETING

Town of Fort Erie

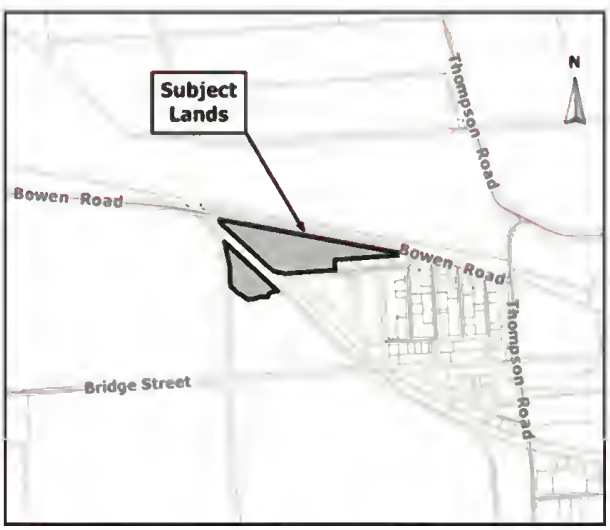
BOWEN ROAD LANDS-TO PERMIT INDUSTRIAL USES

(PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO.34 AND SITE SPECIFIC ZONING AMENDMENT- Application350309-0433)

DATE: FEBRUARY 21, 2017
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: COUNCIL CHAMBERS

NATURE OF AMENDMENTS

The **Town of Fort Erie** has initiated amendments to the Official Plan and Zoning By-law to permit certain dry industrial uses on the subject lands shown on the map below.



WHAT WILL THESE AMENDMENTS ADDRESS

To change the Official Plan designation on the subject lands from Urban Residential and Open Space with Environmental Conservation to Special Policy Industrial area to permit low intensive industrial uses on private sanitary services until such time as municipal sanitary sewers are available. This Special Policy area will maintain the existing Environmental Conservation Overlay where it currently exists.

To change the Town's Zoning By-law from Neighbourhood Development and Open Space with an Environmental Conservation EC Overlay Zone to a Site Specific Dry Industrial zone with Environmental Conservation EC Overlay, where the EC Zone currently exists, permitting the following uses: existing uses, public storage, scientific or medical laboratory, tradespersons shop, tradesperson's shops, transportation depots, wholesale establishments, warehousing, veterinarian clinic, pet day care establishment, plumbing shops, service shops, equipment rentals and services, courier and delivery services, lumber and building yards, public uses and operations, catering establishments, business or commercial trade school, construction trade establishment, communication facilities, commercial refuelling stations, communication facilities, factory outlet, gasoline bars, transportation truck terminal, bakery.

- To change the Town's Zoning By-law to restrict outside storage in the subject site specific Dry Industrial zone.
- To change the Town's Zoning By-law to permit the above noted uses on private sanitary services until such time as municipal sanitary services are available.
- To allow additional uses, being; automotive uses, dry cleaning plants, food processing establishments, industrial uses, laundries, machine shops, medical marihuana grow and production facilities, motor vehicle repair shop, motor vehicle body shop, manufacturing and print establishments, when sanitary sewers become available.
- Permitted uses will be subject to Ministry of Environment 06 guidelines.

GETTING MORE INFORMATION

Input on the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Town. Please note that unless you do one of the above now, you may not be able to appeal the decision later.

A copy of the Information Report will be available to the public by 5:00 PM on February 15, 2016. The information report will be available in the Council agenda portion of the Town's Web Site: www.forterie.ca or from the Planning and Development Services Department.

PROVIDING YOUR COMMENTS OR REQUESTING NOTICE OF DECISION

To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision of the Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment, please send a letter c/o Laura Bubanko, Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6 or an email to lbubanko@forterie.ca

CONTACT INFORMATION

Dave Heyworth, MCIP, RPP
Manager of Policy Planning
Planning and Development Services Department,
Town Hall, 1 Municipal Centre Drive,
Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 2S6
905-871-1600, ext. 2504
Or by e-mailing your comments to: dheyworth@town.forterie.on.ca

FUTURE NOTICE REQUESTS

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie in respect of the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law amendment before the By-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Fort Erie to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie in respect of the proposed Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law amendment before the By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board, unless in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment, you must make a written request to Laura Bubanko, Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk and such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Dated this 26th day of January, 2017

Laura Bubanko, CMO, Dipl.M.A.
Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk

Richard F. Brady. MA, MCIP, RPP,
Director of Planning and Development Services

Public has say in lake report

ALISON LANGLEY
Postmedia Network

An independent binational organization that monitors the Great Lakes is asking for public input on a report assessing the Canadian and U.S. governments' progress in restoring and protecting the waterways.

The International Joint Commission on Wednesday released its first draft triennial assessment of progress report and the agency will now spend three months gathering comments from the public before preparing its final assessment which will be presented to governments on both sides of the border.

The draft is based on a progress report of the Great Lakes water quality agreement which was released last fall.

"It is a key time in the history of the Great Lakes and the agreement, and we strongly encourage everyone to provide their input and participate in upcoming public meetings," said Gordon Walker, IJC's Canadian chairman.

"Public input is essential to agreement success."

The IJC has identified several key findings from the report for public discussion including new government investment to restore contaminated areas of concern and develop tools to measure habitat health and restore wetlands.

Coastal wetlands are improving across the basin, according to the report, which benefits native species and reduces the amount of pollutants and nutrients entering the lakes.

The agreement also calls for strategies to control a list of eight contaminants including PCBs and dioxins, as well as stopping the introduction of aquatic invasive species through ballast water controls and prevention programs.

While it commends Canada and the U.S. for their commitment and dedicated effort to meet several of the agreement's goals, the IJC cautioned a number of issues are not being addressed.

According to the IJC, the quality of water in western and central Lake Erie is "unacceptable" and, while the governments' commitment to reduce nutrient inputs by 40 per cent is laudable, mandatory controls are essential to ensure success.

"They are undertaking major efforts to clean up areas of concern," said IJC spokesperson Sarah Lobrichon. "We now need to deliver an action plan to meet new targets and priorities, to protect human health and to more fully engage the communities that are affected by water quality issues."

Comments can be submitted via email until April 15 at ParticipateIJC@ottawa.ijc.org and online at ParticipateIJC.org.

Public meetings will be held in March in a number of cities in Canada and the U.S., including March 28 in Buffalo, N.Y., and March 29 in St. Catharines.

The IJC was created by Canada and the U.S. under the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909. Under the treaty, the two countries co-operate to prevent and resolve disputes relating to the use and quality of the lakes and rivers along their shared border.

alangley@postmedia.com
Twitter: @nfalslangley

BOB TYMCZYSZYN/STANDARD FILE PHOTO

Lake Ontario is pictured at Lakeside Park during the 2015 summer solstice. A new report on Great Lakes water quality has been released, and the public has been asked to provide feedback.

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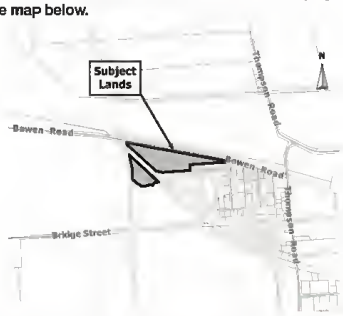
Our Focus: Your Future

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
Town of Fort Erie
BOWEN ROAD LANDS-TO PERMIT INDUSTRIAL USES
(PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT No.34 AND SITE SPECIFIC ZONING AMENDMENT)

DATE: February 9, 2017
TIME: 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
LOCATION: MUNICIPAL TOWN HALL ATRIUM

NATURE OF AMENDMENTS
The Town of Fort Erie has initiated amendments to the Official Plan and Zoning By-law to permit certain dry industrial uses on the subject lands shown on the map below.



THIS IS AN OPEN HOUSE MEETING TO DISCUSS ANY INPUT, QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS YOU MAY HAVE ON THE TOWN INITIATED AMENDMENTS. THIS IS AN OPEN HOUSE MEETING WITH TOWN STAFF.

WHAT WILL THESE AMENDMENTS CHANGE
To change the Official Plan designation on the subject lands from Urban Residential and Open Space with Environmental Conservation to Special Policy Industrial area to permit low intensive industrial uses on private sanitary services until such time as municipal sanitary sewers are available. This Special Policy area will maintain the existing Environmental Conservation Overlay where it currently exists.
To change the Town's Zoning By-law from Neighbourhood Development and Open Space with an Environmental Conservation EC Overlay Zone to a Site Specific Dry Industrial zone with Environmental Conservation EC Overlay, where the EC Zone currently exists, permitting the following uses: existing uses, public storage, scientific or medical laboratory, tradespersons shop, tradesperson's shops, transportation depots, wholesale establishments, warehousing, veterinarian clinic, pet day care establishment, plumbing shops, service shops, equipment rentals and services, courier and delivery services, lumber and building yards, public uses and operations, catering establishments, business or commercial trade school, construction trade establishment, communication facilities, commercial refuelling stations, communication facilities, factory outlet, gasoline bars, transportation truck terminal, bakery.
• To change the Town's Zoning By-law to restrict outside storage in the subject site specific Dry Industrial zone.
• To change the Town's Zoning By-law to permit the above noted uses on uses on private sanitary services until such time as municipal sanitary services are available.
• To allow additional uses, being; automotive uses, dry cleaning plants, food processing establishments, industrial uses, laundries, machine shops, medical marihuana grow and production facilities, motor vehicle repair shop, motor vehicle body shop, manufacturing and print establishments, when sanitary sewers become available.
• Permitted uses will be subject to Ministry of Environment D6 guidelines.

HAVE YOUR SAY

PROVIDING YOUR COMMENTS OR GETTING MORE INFORMATION
Commenting on the proposed amendments is encouraged. You can provide input by calling or writing the Town. You are also invited to attend the meeting to speak with the applicant or staff.
CONTACT INFORMATION
Deve Heyworth, MCIP, RPP
Manager of Policy Planning
Planning and Development Services Department,
Town Hall, 1 Municipal Centre Drive,
Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 2S6
905-871-1600, ext. 2504
Or by e-mailing your comments to: dheyworth@town.forterie.on.ca

FUTURE NOTICE REQUESTS
This Public Information Open House is being conducted to allow public and stakeholders with an opportunity to meet with Town Planning staff prior to the formal legislative meeting in front of Council.
A statutory Public Meeting required under the Planning Act will be scheduled for February 21, 2017 and will be posted in the Times newspaper, Town's website, social media, billboard sign, water and tax bill if possible, community postings and also provided to the BIA's.
If you wish to receive notice of the Public Meeting, you are requested to provide your name and a current e-mail address or mailing address where the Notice is to be sent.
Please use the contact information above to notify Deve Heyworth of the preferred notice option. Staff would kindly request you consider e-mail delivery as preferred choice.

Briefs

Man arrested in Facebook harassment case

A St. Catharines man was arrested Monday after a woman reported getting explicit Facebook messages and telephone calls from an unknown male.

Niagara Regional Police said they launched an investigation in late December when they received the complaint about unwanted messages and harassing calls.

Police said they identified a suspect and executed a search warrant at his apartment on Friday.

On Monday, Daniel Petrucci, 32, of St. Catharines was arrested and charged with criminal harassment.

Teen suffers head injury in St. Catharines assault

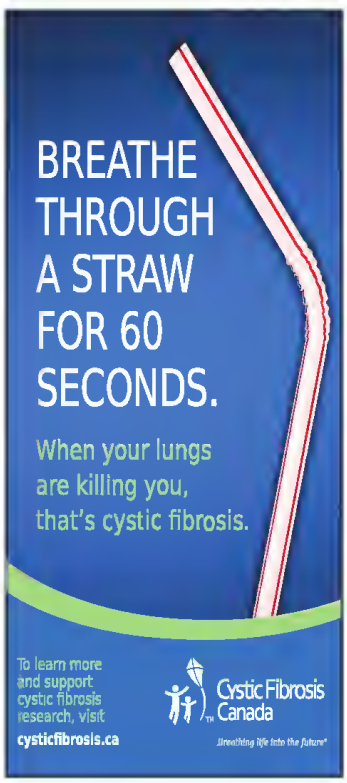
Police are appealing to witnesses to come forward after a 16-year-old boy was assaulted in west St. Catharines Sunday night.

Niagara Regional Police just past 11 p.m. responded to an area near Powerview Avenue and Tunis Street.

The teen victim suffered an injury to his head and was transported to a local hospital. A short time later, police said, the level of injury was upgraded and he was transported to a Toronto hospital, where he was last reported as being in stable condition.

Police investigators have canvassed the area for video surveillance and carried out a canine unit search.

Detectives are interested in speaking with anyone who may have witnessed a disturbance that occurred Sunday between 9:30 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. in the parking lot of DSBN Academy at 130 Louth St.



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INVITATION TO APPLY TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY ON A BOARD OR COMMITTEE

The Town of Fort Erie is served not only by elected officials but by volunteers as well through appointment to its various boards and committees. The Town is looking for people who have an interest in contributing to their community.

To be eligible for appointment to a board or committee, you must be a resident in the Town of Fort Erie, or the owner or tenant of land, or the spouse of such owner or tenant, a Canadian citizen, and at least 18 years old*. The Clerk is accepting applications for the vacancies that exist on the following boards/committees:

Barrier-Free

Accessibility Advisory Committee
1 vacancy for a person with a disability pursuant to *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*

Flowers/Beautification

Communities-in-Bloom Committee
4 vacancies

Gaming

Community Gaming Development Corporation
1 Board vacancy

Books/Movies/Internet

Fort Erie Public Library
1 Board vacancy pursuant to Public Libraries Act; must be Town of Fort Erie resident

fepl

Youth - Ages: 13-21*

Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee
8 vacancies

History/Conservation

Museum & Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee
1 vacancy

Zoomers 50+

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
1 vacancy for a representative from each of the following:
Dandi-Lions,
Black Creek Leisure Homes,
Italo Canadian Seniors,
Native Friendship Centre Seniors

For more information and the application form, please visit the Town's website: **www.forterie.ca** - Government – Boards & Committees.

Submissions will be accepted by the Clerk **on or before Thursday, February 9, 2017 by 4:00 p.m.**
via: 1. Email: lbubanko@forterie.ca
2. Mail or hand delivery to: Town of Fort Erie, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON L2A 2S6

Cheryl Watson, Legislative Assistant, welcomes enquiries at 905-871-1600 ext. 2212 or via email: cwatson@forterie.ca

This information is being collected pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to select persons for appointments to Town of Fort Erie boards and committees. A public ballot process may be used when an election is required to select an appointee. The ballots are public documents.

Laura Bubanko, Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk, Town of Fort Erie

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NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT
Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P 13, ss.17(23), O.Reg. 543/06

APPLICANT: TOWN OF FORT ERIE **FILE #:** 350302-0095

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Fort Erie passed **By-law Number 13-2017** being a by-law to adopt **Amendment #33** to the Official Plan for the Town of Fort Erie Planning Area on the 23rd day of January, 2017 under Section 22 of the Planning Act.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or public body may appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board in respect of the by-law by filing with the Clerk of the Town of Fort Erie not later than the **15th day of February, 2017** a notice of the appeal setting out the reasons for the appeal and the specific part of the proposed official plan amendment to which the appeal applies. Any appeal must be accompanied by the Board's fee of $300.00. A certified cheque or money order made payable to the Minister of Finance must accompany the Notice of Appeal.

The decision of Council is final if a notice of appeal is not received before or on the last day for filing a Notice of Appeal.

The proposed Official Plan Amendment is exempt from approval by the Regional Municipality of Niagara. The decision of the Council is final if a notice of appeal is not received on or before the last day for filing a notice of appeal.

A key map is not shown since the location of the lands to which the By-law applies is all downtown cores of Fort Erie.

No person or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the plan was adopted, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the council or, in the opinion of the Ontario Municipal Board, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

Only individuals, corporations or pubic bodies may appeal a decision of the Municipality to the Ontario Municipal Board. A Notice of Appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a Notice of Appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

The purpose and effect of Amendment No. 33 is to amend the Town of Fort Erie's Official Plan to permit the residential parking requirements in the Bridgeburg, Southend, Ridgeway, Crystal Beach and Stevensville downtown cores to be achieved through the provision of dedicated parking spaces located on a site other than the site where the residential use is located.

INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO THE AMENDMENT

Information pertaining to the proposed Official Plan Amendment application and the adopted Official Plan Amendment #33 is available at the Clerk's Office and the Planning and Development Services Department during regular office hours, and can also be found on the Town of Fort Erie Website: www.forterie.ca.

OTHER APPLICATIONS

An application for Zoning By-law Amendment, File No. 350309-427, was approved by the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie on January 23rd, 2017.

DATED AT THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE THIS 26TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2017.

LAURA BUBANKO, MANAGER/LEGISLATIVE SERVICES/CLERK

ALLAN BENNER/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Three cats died after an early morning fire swept through this First Street home in Welland Monday.

Three cats die in Welland blaze

ALLAN BENNER
Postmedia Network

A woman escaped uninjured after fire tore through her rented Welland home early Monday, but her three pets weren't as fortunate.

The woman who has not been identified by firefighters "did manage to get out" of the semi-detached home at 88 First St. after the fire started at about 4:50 a.m.

Welland fire Chief Brian Kennedy said 13 career firefighters and 18 volunteers responded to the fire, and managed to contain flames to within the building.

However, he said, three cats were killed in the blaze.

Kennedy said there were no working smoke alarms within the building at the time of the fire, and charges are pending as a result.

Already in 2017, he said, there have been seven fire fatalities in Ontario, compared to three during the same period in 2016.

"When are people going to get it?" he asked.

The residents of the attached home at 90 First St. were not home when the fire occurred, and the fire did not spread beyond the firewall that divides the two homes.

Although the flames were contained within the building, fire prevention officer Cheri Busch said the spread of fire within buildings can be devastating, which emphasizes "the importance of early detection with smoke alarms."

The fire remains under investigation.

ABenner@postmedia.com
Twitter: @abenner1

Donation to cadets

KRIS DUBE/SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

The Fort Erie Optimist Club recently donated $1,500 to the 2966 Royal Canadian Army Cadets. The amount will help with an overseas trip to England and France that seven cadets and three officers from the squadron will take in April. The trip, which will include visits to Normandy and Vimy Ridge, has an estimated cost of $3,500 per person. Accepting the cheque from Optimist president Susan Brown is MWO Jalen Czuba. Anyone interested in assisting with fundraising efforts can call 905-991-8278.

Police Briefs

Man arrested following police chase

A Niagara Falls man faces several charges following a police chase in Niagara-on-the-Lake Wednesday night.

Niagara Regional Police said an officer was on foot patrol near Queen and Gates streets at about 8 p.m. when he saw a speeding 2004 white Oldsmobile heading toward him.

The officer got out of the way of the car, which continued along Gate Street.

Police said the officer got into his cruiser, turned his lights and siren on and followed the Oldsmobile. The driver of the Oldsmobile refused to stop.

The officer pursued the car to the area of Bunting and Linwell Road in St. Catharines where, with the help of other officers, he stopped the car.

Police said the NRP cruiser and the Oldsmobile were slightly damaged in the chase.

Kornel Zenon Chochorek, 34, is charged with dangerous driving, flight from police, impaired driving, and operating a motor vehicle with over 80 mg of alcohol in 100 ml of blood.

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NOTICE OF PASSING OF A ZONING BY-LAW

APPLICANT: TOWN OF FORT ERIE **File No. 350309-0427**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Fort Erie passed **By-law No. 14-2017** on the 23rd day of January, 2017 under section 34 (1B) of The Planning Act, 1990.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or agency may appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board in respect of the by-law by filing with the Clerk of the Town of Fort Erie not later than the **15th day of February, 2017**, a notice of the appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objection. Any appeal must be accompanied by the Board's fee of $300.00. A certified cheque or money order in this amount made payable to the Minister of Finance must accompany the Notice of Appeal.

Only individuals, corporations and public bodies may appeal a zoning by-law to the Ontario Municipal Board. A Notice of Appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a Notice of Appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf. No person or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the council or, in the opinion of the Ontario Municipal Board, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

A key map is not shown since the location of the lands to which the By-law applies is all downtown cores of Fort Erie. The complete By-law is available for inspection in the Clerk's office during regular office hours and can also be found on the **Town of Fort Erie Website: www.forterie.ca.**

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

The purpose and effect of By-law No. 14-2017 is to amend Town of Fort Erie Comprehensive Zoning By-law No. 129-90 by repealing and replacing "Section 21-Central Business District Commercial (C2A)" Zone, "Section 26A – Core Mixed Use 1 (CMU-1)" Zone, "Section 26B-Core Mixed Use 2 (CMU2)" Zone, and "Section 26 D – Core Mixed Use 4 (CMU-4)" Zone in order to permit privately owned parking lots; parking for residential units to be provided off-site in a municipal lot (either in a dedicated area or with a permit) located within 200 m of the property containing the residential use; and parking for residential units to be provided off-site in a private lot located within 200 m of the property containing the residential use provided an easement is obtained.

DATED AT THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE THIS 26TH OAY OF JANUARY, 2017

LAURA BUBANKO, MANAGER, LEGISLATIVE SERVICES/CLERK

NOTICE OF PASSING OF A ZONING BY-LAW

APPLICANT: TOWN OF FORT ERIE **File No. 350309-0425**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Fort Erie passed **By-law No. 12-2017** on the 23rd day of January, 2017 under section 34 (18) of The Planning Act, 1990.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or agency may appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board in respect of the by-law by filing with the Clerk of the Town of Fort Erie not later than the **15th day of February, 2017**, a notice of the appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objection. Any appeal must be accompanied by the Board's fee of $300.00. A certified cheque or money order in this amount made payable to the Minister of Finance must accompany the Notice of Appeal.

Only individuals, corporations and public bodies may appeal a zoning by-law to the Ontario Municipal Board. A Notice of Appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a Notice of Appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf. No person or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the council or, in the opinion of the Ontario Municipal Board, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

A key map is not shown since the location of the lands to which the By-law applies is all of Fort Erie. The complete By-law is available for inspection in the Clerk's office during regular office hours and can also be found on the **Town of Fort Erie Website: www.forterie.ca.**

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

The purpose and effect of By-law No. 12-2017 is to amend Town of Fort Erie Comprehensive Zoning By-law No. 129-90 by repealing and replacing "Section 6.39 STORAGE OF RECREATION VEHICLES" to temporarily permit the storage of recreational vehicles on a lot containing a residential dwelling in the front yard for a period of up to 72 hours between May 1st to October 31st, a maximum of 6 times in the calendar year.

DATED AT THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE THIS 26TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2017

LAURA BUBANKO, MANAGER, LEGISLATIVE SERVICES/CLERK

MICHELLE ALLENBERG/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Hip-hop artists Josh Davison, John Kirby, James Morabito and Joel Perusse sample music at Strange Pumpkin Studio in St. Catharines.

Hip hop still alive in Niagara

MICHELLE ALLENBERG
postmedia network

The pulse of Niagara's hip-hop scene continues to beat strong.

Local hip-hop artists Josh Davison (Rsonal), James Morabito (Donny Yonder), Joel Perusse (Ase Mor) and John Kirby (K-FLiP) have been creating music for more than a decade. With some of their songs being listened to more than 2,000 times on YouTube, the artists continue to create music despite a drop off in local performances due to limited hip-hop venues.

Around 2007, the 905HIPHOP movement was started by Davison — its Facebook group has more than 2,400 followers. It started as a way for local artists to work together and gain an audience in the community.

"In St. Catharines there were different groups of friends who did music on their own and the 905 was an attempt to kind of bring everyone together to work together for the same goals and get the music out," Davison says.

In recent years the number of musicians who continue to perform hip hop has declined. Davison says this is because people are starting families or have other priorities now that they are older. He says, however, there are still about a dozen local hip-hop artists who record and perform.

For Davison, having a smaller group of artists is better in some ways because the musicians who are still around are "seasoned artists."

Morabito says another reason for the hip-hop drop is a lack of accommodating venues.

In the past, artists were playing two or three shows a month, but in recent years things have died down. Davison agrees with Morabito, saying many venues hear "hip hop" and aren't interested in booking.

"Even if you go to a bar that would be empty that night and we'll be like, 'We'll work something out at the door and we will bring 100 people in here.' 'Well, what kind of music do you do?' 'Hip hop.' 'Hmm, no thank you.'"

Morabito and Davison say most of the time the genre gets a bad name based on what's portrayed on television.

Lucas Spinosa, owner of The Black Sheep Lounge in Welland, says he isn't influenced by the bad rap hip hop sometimes gets.

During the Niagara Music Awards last year he was approached by a musician about hosting a hip-hip battle at the cafe. As a result, Black Sheep is planning to host a hip-hop show and battle.

"We are open to it. The only reluctance people I think have would be what they are rapping about or singing about... concerns aren't any different for any other artist for me, so as long as everyone is respectful and not overly vulgar then I am open to all types of music, Spinosa says.

"Definitely not trying to avoid hip hop, it's just I find it a little harder to find and I'm sure it's harder for (the musicians) to find venues, but if they want to come here they can," Spinosa says.

Morabito and Perusse said for people to be listening to their music they have to be searching for it. The four artists said once musicians gain popularity in Niagara they are forced to go to Hamilton or Toronto to perform.

The four rappers says the music scene in Niagara has changed in recent years with the loss of the St. Catharines SCENE festival and fewer music promoters. They agree even other genres of music that were once popular with shows every weekend have faded out. Morabito and Davison say for there to be a hip-hop scene again music promoters need to "step up" and start booking shows.

Davison and Kirby say there were always promoters setting up local shows, but they moved on and the scene moved with them.

Spinosa, though, says the music scene didn't die off, but there are less places for musicians to perform. He says there are only a handful of venues in Niagara that have a monopoly on the music scene.

"People are still going to shows. I think the thing I like the least about the music scene in Niagara are the promoters because these promoters are making these musicians sell tickets, which makes no sense when your title is promoter," Spinosa says.

Morabito's Donny Yonder group, which comprises about eight people, will perform Saturday, Jan. 28, at The Rex on Welland's King Street. Donny Yonder musicians use instruments, including guitars and pianos.

"We play our original music and we play our music, (that of) Donny and the Beat Chef, but we do live versions with the band," Morabito says.

Davison, who is Beat Chef, says it's interesting hearing his music performed by Donny Yonder.

"I get to hear something I just made with my software and then I will go to the show and I get to hear a live interpretation of music we just made electronically," Davison says.

Despite a lack of frequent local performances, the artists continue to produce and record music. Morabito often uses recording equipment at Strange Pumpkin Studio in St. Catharines and is working on two new albums as part of Donny and the Beat Chef. Donny and the Beat Chef will perform at the Hard Rock Cafe in Niagara Falls tonight at 9. The performance, presented by Discover Music Niagara, will include music by Hachey the MouthPEACE and others. Cover is $5 and it is a 19 and older event.

Perusse is also working on a new album that will be available in coming months.

Perusse, Morabito and Davison say turntablist Kirby has had a hand in many local hip-hop artists' music in the region. Kirby will be working on songs for the three musicians' upcoming albums.

Their music is available on Spotify, Sound Cloud and YouTube. Morabito's music Donny Yonder Over There can be found on Spotify. Donny Yonder and Donny and the Beat Chef can be found on YouTube. Perusse's music can be found as CornerStoreRap and Davison can be found as Rsonal on YouTube.

MAllenberg@postmedia.com
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SUBMIT YOUR EVENT!!!

Are you organizing an event in Fort Erie from March to September 2017? Does your event benefit the Fort Erie community? Is it open to all members of the public? If so, we want to include it in our **NEW Community Guide!**

DUE BY JAN. 31

Quick Facts about the NEW Community Guide...

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- NEW One-stop-shop for municipal services, recreational & community programs, special events and more!
- NEW Published semi-annually (Spring/Summer & Fall/Winter)
- NEW Includes detailed community programming from local organizations.

To submit you event details or to see if your event is eligible, please visit www.forterie.ca or contact Janine Tessmer (jtessmer@forterie.ca or 905-871-1600, ext. 2217).

FORT ERIE

Gogo shines at Thorold blues fest

JEN HARDY
Special to Postmedia Network

David Gogo is no newcomer to Thorold.

The blues guitarist has played the October Canal Bank Shuffle Blues Festival many times.

He said its Guitar Wars feature, with local sensation Jack de Keyzer, has become some sort of annual tradition.

Gogo, who lives in a small town in British Columbia, said the crowd in Thorold is much like the crowd at home.

Whenever he gets asked to play the blues festival or other events in Thorold, he is quick to agree to come back. He returned Friday to a sold-out crowd at Club Capri.

The next blues event is scheduled for April 9, when Canal Bank Shuffle favourites the Ghost Town Blues Band will return to Thorold.

Time and location, as well as tickets, will be posted on canalbankshuffle.com, as details become available.

JEN HARDY/SPECIAL TO POSTMEDIA NETWORK

David Gogo performs during Guitar Wars 2017 at Club Capri on Friday night.

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JUMP ON BOARD THE NEW TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Do you use or do you know someone who uses Fort Erie transit regularly? Do you want to be part of the change and make a difference in your community? The Clerk is accepting applications from residents, business owners/operators or taxpayers to sit on the new Transit Advisory Committee (TAC). This new Committee will assess, advise and provide input on transit issues.

6 vacancies
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Up to 2 Community member(s) at large

For more information and the application form, please visit the Town's website: www.forterie.ca -Government – Boards & Committees

Submissions will be accepted by the Clerk **on or before Thursday, February 9, 2017 by 4:00 p.m.** via:

1. Email: lbubanko@forterie.ca
2. Mail or hand delivery to: Town of Fort Erie, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON L2A 2S6

Cheryl Watson, Legislative Assistant, welcomes enquiries at 905-871-1600 ext. 2212 or via email: cwatson@forterie.ca

This information is being collected pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to select persons for appointments to Town of Fort Erie boards and committees. A public ballot process may be used when an election is required to select an appointee. The ballots are public documents.

Laura Bubanko, Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk, Town of Fort Erie

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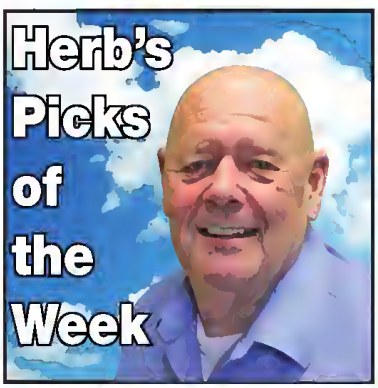
972 CONCESSION ROAD
Large family 2550 square foot, 5 level back split in great neighbourhood. Home offers 4 bedrooms, master bedroom has 4-piece en-suite, 2.5 baths, spacious family room with wood burning fireplace, large eat-in kitchen with oak cabinets, full basement, back deck (30x10), fenced yard & attached double garage.

346 PHIPPS STREET
Spacious 1350 square foot family home. This home features 4 bedrooms, large eat-in kitchen, main floor bedroom, large backyard& single detached garage. Newer furnace & A/C.



Grants helping to drive development surge

KRIS DUBE
Special to the Advance

There is a major surge in residential development around Greater Fort Erie and last week Mayor Wayne Redekop participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially unveil four new apartments on Jarvis Street.

Owned by Chinese investors, the second floor units have been renovated and updated.

Redekop said the new businesses that have sprouted up in the Bridgeburg area are a testament to the faith investors, both from afar and in town, have faith that the area can be revitalized.

"It shows they have confidence in this area and council is very supportive of that," said Redekop.

In 2016, the Town of Fort Erie set a record with new homes and apartments being approved – doubling the amount of residential construction permits issued in a typical year.

The mayor says this can be partially attributed to the municipality's efforts in creating different types of residential units, a wider variety for buyers. "What we've been doing is looking for ways to continuously provide a greater mix of housing," said Redekop.

The owner of the apartments, Dang Xie, says she spent about $300,000 on the four apartments.

She also owns the unit that houses the Niagara District Catholic School Board's St. John South Adult Learning Centre.

PHOTO SPECIAL TO FORT ERIE TIMES

Mayor Wayne Redekop with realtor Carmine Guadagno and property owner Dang Xie tour four new apartments on Jarvis Street last week.

In 2014, the Town of Fort Erie initiated its Community Improvement Plan program, rolling out a financial incentive effort in various parts of town.

The Bridgeburg, Ridgeway and Stevensville areas have all seen the program benefit local businesses and property owners with improvements and the process is currently being worked on for Bridgeburg North, the area recently included in the urban boundary and nearby the proposed Fort Erie Hills subdivision.

A plan for the south end is expected to be finished later this year.

A secondary plan and CIP for Crystal Beach will follow, a schedule set through a decision made by council.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

PHOTO SPECIAL TO FORT ERIE TIMES

Phil Smith, a realtor and business owner, is asking town council to consider prioritizing a Community Improvement Plan for the Crystal Beach area.

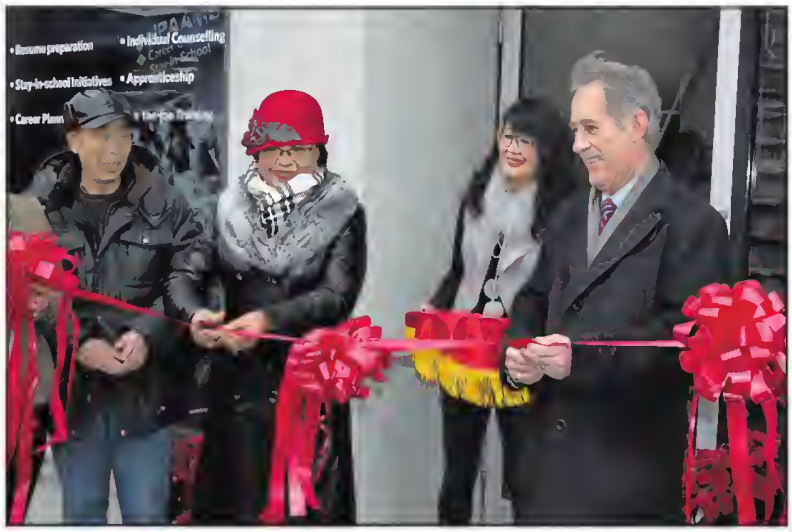


PHOTO SPECIAL TO FORT ERIE TIMES

Property owner Dang Xie cuts the ribbon at an event unveiling her four new apartments on Jarvis Street.

Parking issues being addressed throughout town

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

Redekop also said parking issues are being addressed throughout town where residential units exist above commercial locations.

"It should encourage some further residential development over top of commercial buildings in downtown areas," he said.

Carmine Guadagno, a realtor who arranged last week's event at 58 Jarvis St., says now is a great time to be in the real estate business and that the local market doesn't appear to be cooling down soon – with so many people moving to Niagara and Fort Erie from the Greater Toronto and Hamilton areas.

"People come down because they see the value and of course the proximity to the border and the QEW makes it an easy place to commute from," he said.

"When you put a house on the market here – it's gone," he added.

At the opposite end of Greater Fort Erie, the Crystal Beach area is also bustling with residential activity – a message conveyed by local realtor and business owner Phil Smith at Monday night's regular council meeting.

He addressed council on the subject of the local CIP plans and the need for one in Crystal Beach, sooner than what is scheduled.

Smith is the owner of 10 businesses in the area of Erie and Derby Roads, that altogether employ more than 35 people. There are also eight loft-style apartments mixed into the neighbourhood, in former commercial buildings he has had renovated.

In response to a question raised by Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts on Monday night, Smith estimated he has invested in excess of $2 million in the community.

Supportive of growth and success in other parts of town, Smith says he and other investors in Crystal Beach are looking for an equal piece of the pie, which would require the completion of a secondary plan for Crystal Beach before their properties are eligible for the thousands of dollars being made available elsewhere.

"We're merely looking for a level playing field," he said to council.

"We're able and ready to improve our community – but we need your help. The timing couldn't be better," he added.

The Town's director of planning and community development Rick Brady said he will be preparing a report for council within the next month, recommending that the Crystal Beach area's secondary plan and CIP are prioritized over Bridgeburg North.

"Clearly, there's a lot of interest in Crystal Beach from the business community," said Brady.

"They're doing a great job and it's not fair that they don't have the same support mechanisms as the other downtowns," he added.

Three programs have been created that will offer matching grants (up to set limits) for improvements such as facade improvement, commercial signage and residential creation and intensification.

The Town is leveraging the available funding by tapping into the regional government's Smarter Niagara Incentive Programs that provide percentage matching on the programs approved by council.

All properties must be within a defined boundary and must also be zoned for core mixed use or commercial uses, says the municipality.

The financial incentives are delivered in the form of a one-time grant once the project has been completed and all agreed-upon terms and conditions have been met.

Since its inception, a total of 28 agreements have been struck with property owners and $302,000 worth of improvements have been given the green light. The total is split between the Town and the Region.

To date, $182,000 has been paid out for completed projects with $120,000 remaining for projects already underway or slated to begin.

Bridgeburg has accounted for $165,000 in 17 projects while Ridgeway has seen 11 projects accounting for $137,000.

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CUPE launches campaign targeting Brock pay

DON FRASER
Standard Staff

The union local representing Brock University's academic workers has launched a public campaign slamming university compensation practices.

In the ad, Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 4207 — now in contract talks with Brock — focuses on "Brock's claim" of a "starting salary: $35,000 to $40,000" representing a university position for new graduates.

The same ad, which has run in The Standard, says the "reality" is a maximum salary of $24,752 for CUPE-organized instructors with a full course load.

"We just want to raise awareness that the feel-good story that Brock is putting forward doesn't apply to Brock," said Phil Wachel, president of the local which represents more than 1,000 workers at the university.

"We want Brock to be a top employer in the region, but we want Brock to be a top employer for everyone that is here.

"Our group is paid far below the provincial average when compared to other universities ... that's part of it," Wachel said in an interview.

"And we're looking for real benefits — not a dental fund that a minority of people can use."

A broader media campaign by the union points to Brock's designation as a top area employer.

The university was recently selected as one of Hamilton-Niagara's top employers of 2017, as described in eluta.ca, which is managed by the Canada's Top 100 Employers project.

Among factors leading to that designation is the reference to the starting salary range of Brock jobs for new graduates.

Countering this, a recent release accompanying CUPE's public campaign states teaching assistants, "lab demonstrators and contract instructors at Brock are among the lowest paid in the province."

"They have little job security and must apply for their job, up to three times per year," the release says.

"They are currently in bargaining with the university for a collective agreement that seeks to address poverty wages, job insecurity, and the lack of benefits."

CUPE 4207 and Brock are in continuing talks with a provincially-appointed mediator.

A three-year collective agreement expired Sept. 6, with negotiations thus far failing to reach an agreement.

A strike mandate vote was to take place Thursday.

In an emailed statement, Brock University said it's "committed to the collective bargaining process that is taking place, and working through the conciliation process."

"Out of respect for everyone at the table, we are not going to make public statements about issues that are currently the subject of negotiation."

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JULIE JOCSAK/ ST. CATHARINES STANDARD/ POSTMEDIA NETWORK

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Q. Our son has recently moved in with his girlfriend, and we are worried that after six months, she will get half of everything he owns if they break up? Is that true?

A. There seems to be a general misconception as to what happens when two people live together. Technically, in Ontario, unless you have a child together, you are not considered to be common law spouses until you have lived together as spouses for at least three years. And, even if you ARE common law spouses, there is no automatic right to share in the property of the other. This surprises many people because they think it works exactly as you suggested. This is same for couples who have been together for twenty years and have never married. If one of the spouses dies without a will, the surviving common law spouse does not have an automatic right to inherit anything. Remember, Marriage is NOT the same as common law in Ontario. If your son ad his girlfrend intend to blend their assets, they should both consider entering into an agreement to set out exactly how the assets would be divided should they separate in the future. They should also think seriously about preparing Wills and Powers of Attorney.

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Ask The Expert

Q. Q. Do You Have to File a Return for 2016?

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Death is inevitable and implementing an estate plan can cost you money but can save your beneficiaries and executor valuable time and money in the future.

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News Briefs

Wellander wins big on Lotto Max

A Welland man is richer after winning big on Lotto Max.

David Martinicchio, 38, matched six out of seven numbers plus the bonus number to win the second prize of $126,968.50 in the Jan. 13 draw.

"I found my winning ticket sitting in the glove compartment of my car," Martinicchio told Ontario Lottery and Gaming officials.

Martinicchio was heading to Cuba that weekend when he found out he had won.

"I kissed the ticket and then walked into the store. I scanned it in the ticket checker and found out it was a winning ticket. I couldn't believe it."

Martinicchio said money had been tight lately because he had recently started a business with his friend. He said the win came at a good time.

Martinicchio said when he told his parents he had won his mother jumped and gave him a big hug. He said his dad was "in complete shock," but told him not to spend it.

Martinicchio plans to make some repairs to his house and said he would enjoy Cuba with a little more "comfort."

— Postmedia Network

SUPPLIED PHOTO

David Martinicchio, 38, of Welland celebrates his Lotto Max win.

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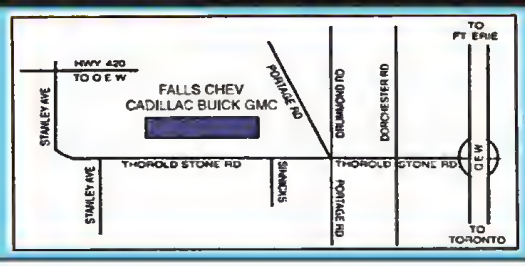

College students really on their game

Developers participate in global design event

LAURA BARTON
Postmedia network

LAURA BARTON/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

While it may look like second-year Niagara College game development student Steven Gaudet is only staring at the computer screen, he's using new eye-tracking technology to play a game he and his eight teammates developed for this year's Global Game Jam staged worldwide on the weekend.

It was a weekend of video game creation for students at Niagara College as they spent 48 hours in the computer labs for the Global Game Jam.

The jam is a worldwide event in which game developers get together at set locations to create something.

"In 48 hours they have to complete a game of some sort that fits the theme from scratch," said Alex Hicks, a graduate of the college's game development program who was volunteering for the event. "So they come in and they don't use stuff that they've previously used besides just their knowledge."

The students get a theme, which this year happened to be waves, and they work as a team or on their own to create a game that uses an interpretation of that theme.

Program graduate Lyle Guay said he and his team were working on a game that dealt with waves of enemies and a weapon that shoots waves.

Second-year student Zachary Campbell and his team of three were creating what he described as an infinite runner sailboat game. It was the first time he and his group participated in the jam.

"It's going pretty rough, a little bit, but we're getting through it," he said.

As second-year students in the game development program, they hadn't yet learned all the nuances of putting everything together to make a functioning game, Campbell said. Classes have been mostly focused on individual aspects.

Seeing how everything comes together is a real learning experience for him. He feels this crash course of sorts will help him with a similar project he must do for class.

"Before it would have taken me five to 10 hours, now it's going to take me two to three," he said.

In another computer lab the game developers had taken over for the weekend, some groups were working to create games using new eye-tracking technology.

Steven Gaudet, another second-year student in the program, and his team of nine kept it simple because they had never used the technology before.

"It's just a sorting game," he said of the game, which had a water background to keep with the theme. "But you don't use the keyboard or the mouse, you just have to look at the screen. The camera here just tracks where you're looking."

Gaudet said figuring out the technology only took a few hours because it comes with a lot of information and software that are ready to use.

He picked the eye-tracking technology to make a game because more companies in the industry are picking it up. Even just using it for the game jam gives him that little extra edge of experience.

Hicks said the jam isn't so much a competition as a learning experience. Although all the games created will be uploaded to the Global Game Jam website for everyone to see and rate, there's no prize to be won.

"The website is just more, 'Hey, let's see how everybody did,'" he said.

Niagara College had 45 participants in this year's jam and was one of 90 participating sites worldwide.

lbarton@postmedia.com
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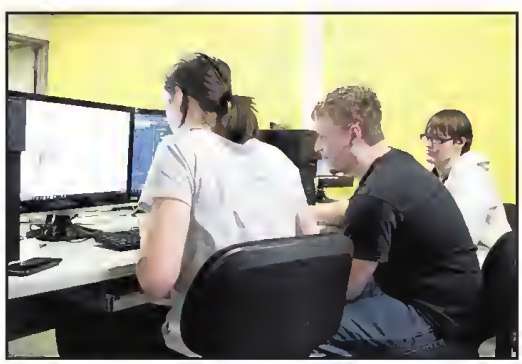

This team of three, made up of second-year Niagara College game development students Rebecca Cook, Zachary Campbell and Chelsea Poulin, are working hard to get their game done for this year's Global Game Jam.

THE BERT MILLER NATURE CLUB OF FORT ERIE
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the members of
THE BERT MILLER NATURE CLUB OF FORT ERIE
will be held at the clubhouse of the Fort Erie Conservation Club, 2555 Ott Rd.
Stevensville Conservation Area, Stevensville, in the Town of Fort Erie, Ontario, on
Monday, the 20th day of February 2017, at 7 p.m.,
for the purposes of

- Considering the financial statements of the Corporation for the financial year that ended September 30, 2016;
- Electing the Board of Directors of the Corporation; and
- Dealing with such other business, if any, as may be properly brought before the meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors Jan. 19, 2017

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NPCA lawsuits piling up

Lawyers keeping busy with flurry of legal action

BILL SAWCHUK
Postmedia Network

Controversy at Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority is keeping lawyers busy — to the point where you need a scorecard to keep track of who is suing whom.

Among them, Bill Montgomery, a marketing specialist from Niagara-on-the-Lake, launched a defamation and slander lawsuit against activist Ed Smith and two regional councillors for St. Catharines, Brian Heit and Kelly Edgar, because of a report that questions NPCA's practices and possible conflicts of interest.

The report names Montgomery's companies as being involved.

Montgomery's statement of claim said that by distributing the report — which doesn't name an author — Smith, Edgar and Heit committed libel and slander against him and his companies. He wants $3 million with a further $500,000 in punitive damages.

In another legal action, Montgomery settled a lawsuit for breach of contract, defamation and intentional interference with business relations against the NPCA and its charitable foundation. That settlement is the subject of a non-disclosure agreement.

A third lawsuit involves the conservation authority and its former CAO, Carmen D'Angelo. They launched their own separate defamation suit against Smith. They each want $100,000 from Smith.

In addition, Montgomery sent a letter of caution, often the first step in a lawsuit, to Welland MPP Cindy Forster and "her supervisor" NDP party Leader Andrea Horwath in November. In that letter, Montgomery claimed Forster "supports" the report, which is a "vicious libel of me personally and professionally."

He warns they could be liable for damages.

Montgomery — who runs a number of companies under the names Value Media Corp. and Cornerstone Sponsorship Management, Stream Three Inc. and Income Group — has filed a statement of claim in the defamation lawsuit against Smith, Heit and Edgar.

Two of his companies Value Media and Cornerstone figure in the report distributed.

None of his allegations have been proven in court.

Smith has been unapologetic for distributing the 45-page report, which is titled A Call for Accountability at the NPCA, and called a press conference late last year to reiterate the point.

Contacted last week, Smith said his lawyer advised him not to speak about the lawsuit filed by Montgomery.

Montgomery's statement of claim said the report singles out his companies as an example of "illegal management" at the conservation authority in awarding a contract to an outside source.

The statement of claim said the defendants knew, or should have known, the accusations were false and that they would destroy Montgomery's reputation, Value Media's reputation and Stream Three's reputation.

The statement of claim said Smith, Edgar and Heit published the false allegations and repeated them frequently, in order to create a backdrop that Montgomery was undertaking "illegal administrative conduct."

After a Niagara Region committee meeting last week, Heit and Edgar both said they have been instructed not to comment on the lawsuit.

It is believed the lawsuit — and who will cover the costs of defending it — was the source of a heated in-camera meeting at regional council Thursday.

Montgomery's statement of claim said that Smith, Heit and Edgar have an agenda to discredit NPCA.

The statement of claim said Heit and Edgar emailed the report to fellow councillors when the Region was in the process of hiring D'Angelo as the Region's CAO.

At the time, Heit told *The Standard* he was trying to convince his fellow councillors they should defer the decision to appoint a new CAO until the issues in the report, which are mostly based on D'Angelo's tenure at NPCA, have been addressed more fully.

The statement of claim said the report alleges that another St. Catharines regional councillor, Andy Petrowski, is in an ownership position or operating position with Value Media, Income Group, Stream Three Inc., and Cornerstone Sponsorship Management.

Montgomery's statement of claim said that is not true.

Montgomery's statement of claim said the report also alleges Petrowski used his influence and acted in a conflict of interest to secure on behalf of one of his businesses "to obtain a large contract" from NPCA in 2015.

Montgomery's statement of claim said it is false.

None of the allegations have been proven in court.

"Regional Coun. Andy Petrowski is not associated with our organization," Montgomery said in a written statement when contacted by *The Standard*. "Policy does not allow commenting on issues presently or previously before the courts, proprietary marketing strategies, or matters that may affect past or current clients."

When contacted, Petrowski said, "I am unable to comment because of potential litigation. Have a good day."

At a press conference at the end of the year, Smith said, "I stand by the research that went into the making of the report on the NPCA, and I am asking for a full response to the unanswered questions in that report."

While Montgomery said Petrowski isn't associated with his organization, the minutes from a Wainfleet council meeting in February 2013 show Petrowski appeared before the mayor and councillors to propose Wainfleet create a legal defence fund that would be run by Value Media Corp. The fund was to help smaller municipalities deal with the costs from a class-action lawsuit against wind turbine developers.

Petrowski's speaking notes are on file at Wainfleet township hall.

He said at the meeting he wasn't appearing as an elected official, but rather as a private citizen and a businessman.

"Our organization is committed to visit immediately with as many as possible of the 90-plus municipalities in Ontario that have publicly expressed their opposition to wind turbine," Petrowksi's speaking notes said.

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Nosky brings unique flair to symphony

JOHN LAW
Postmedia Network

She has blazing red hair, wears snazzy tailored jackets, and loves Metallica.

She may look like a rock singer, but when Aisslinn Nosky makes her debut this weekend as Niagara Symphony Orchestra's first principal guest conductor, she wants to make one thing clear: It's all about classical music.

"For me, it's very important that my true feelings about the music are coming out," says the 38-year-old B.C.-born violinist. "I'm not trying to add anything, change anything, or manipulate the audience's emotions. I'm trying to experience with them how much the music I play means to me.

"If a performance doesn't start with this artistic integrity and real belief in what you're presenting, then it can fall flat. I try to let the music lead me, always."

Nosky was a 10-year member of Toronto's Tafelmusik baroque orchestra, co-founded the I Furiosi baroque ensemble, and is concert master for The Handel and Haydn Society of Boston.

Last year, she worked with Niagara Symphony Orchestra as a guest director and soloist.

It went so well, she was asked to come back "with a slightly more formal relationship to do more of the same."

Nosky felt an "immediate connection and chemistry" with the orchestra, and grabbed the chance to both play and conduct in Niagara.

"Rather than only conducting, I think my playing the violin as well during a concert is something I can bring to the table that is different from what other conductors and directors do."

Nosky will debut Saturday and Sunday at FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre's Cairns Hall with Czech-Mates!, featuring the works of Czech composers Martinu and Morawetz, along with the more familiar Haydn and Mozart.

It will showcase the symphony's principal oboe, Graham Mackenzie.

"It's so fun to approach something like that with a new group of people, because they all know it too, and I know it — and we know that we all know it — and it's a matter of what are we as a group going to say about it that's unique."

jlaw@postmedia.com

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A Titanic transition for Falls arena

Proposed museum will display artifacts and will replicate rooms from ill-fated ship

RAY SPITERI
Postmedia Network

The former Niagara Falls Memorial Arena could be demolished and replaced with a museum dedicated to — and modelled after — the Titanic.

The city's committee of adjustment approved an application from local businessman David van Velzen this week for minor variances to a bylaw that would allow for a new facility to be built in the shape of the historic British passenger liner that sank in the North Atlantic Ocean in 1912 after colliding with an iceberg.

The Centre Street building, which most recently housed a sand sculpture attraction, was put up for sale in November 2014.

Russian-based consortium V2 Niagara, which had bought the property from the City of Niagara Falls in January 2012 for about $1 million, opened the International Sand Sculptures Exhibition there in August 2013.

The world's top sand sculptors were brought to the city to create War of 1812-themed displays depicting people, places and events. Three thousand tonnes of sand was used to create 23 sculptures.

The exhibit, however, wasn't making enough money and the offshore owner put the building and its contents up for sale.

It was originally listed for sale at $3 million, but that was slashed to $1.7 million.

Van Velzen said he has an agreement of purchase and sale in place for the property, but there are "several" conditions that need to be met before the deal is finalized.

He said the purchase process began last October.

The committee of adjustment meeting was the first of "several different steps that we need to take to get to where we want to be," said van Velzen.

"This is all very preliminary. There's a myriad of factors that are involved, including the building. We are basically ripping it down. There's a lot of environmental questions we need answered. We are going through with an inspection (of the building) with the architect, the designer, the engineers, the investment group."

He said the goal is to take ownership of the property in early April.

The idea of bringing a Titanic museum to Niagara Falls bas been "knocked around" for almost a decade, said van Velzen.

"I worked with one of the operators in the city as a consultant to develop it.

"They chose to go another route, so I kept working at it and the group that I've sort of developed has been working on it since 2013."

Van Velzen said the hope is for the museum, which will be called Experience Titanic, to open in the spring of 2018.

He said the museum won't feature recovered artifacts from the ocean floor, but visitors will notice personal items passengers have passed down and sold.

"You would see artifacts from White Star Line, from Olympic, from their vessels," he said.

Van Velzen said he's dealing with four collectors from Canada, United States and Switzerland.

"They all have similar, but yet different, interests in Titanic," he said.

"One of them is very interested in a lot of the paper that sort of came along with the vessel over the last 100 years. One of them has collected a lot of material from Olympic, so if it was on Olympic or any of their other ships, it was on Titanic because they didn't make anything special for Titanic, save and except one item (a cup and saucer)."

The cup and saucer, which will be part of the museum, was taken off the Titanic when a passenger disembarked.

"You will sit in the boiler room, the engine room. You will go through a third-class hallway, a third-class cabin. We'll deal with the sinking, we'll deal with the discovery of the wreck."

Van Velzen has been involved in a number of business and development ventures.

He said one of his other companies published a book, titled *Titanic: The Canadian Story*, about the 130 Canadian passengers aboard the ill-fated luxury liner.

"The book was originally published it for the centennial in 2012."

The author of the book is Alan Hustak.

Van Velzen said he thinks the Centre Street property is in an ideal location for such an attraction.

"It's only a few blocks from Clifton Hill. It's 3½ acres. It does come with its own parking. It does allow us to do many outside events associated with Titanic.

"The building itself will be extremely iconic in the sense that you'll see it from many different vantage points. It's going to be hard to miss."

The 67-year-old building once hosted junior A hockey teams Niagara Falls Flyers and Thunder, along with the junior B Canucks.

The arena was decommissioned and declared surplus to the city's needs after the $38-million four-pad Gale Centre was built in 2010.

A public meeting took place Tuesday evening to consider van Velzen's application, and for residents to find out more about the application and offer comments.

This rendering and design by Lex Parker of Lex Parker Design in St. Catharines shows the museum dedicated to the Titanic that is being proposed for the former Niagara Falls Memorial Arena property on Centre Street.

GUNTER BABLER

This Titanic cup and saucer artifact is from The Rene Bergeron Collection. It will be part of the Experience Titanic museum proposed to be built on the property of the former Niagara Falls Memorial Arena.

The zoning bylaw in question permitted a maximum building height of 12 metres, whereas faux smoke stacks that are proposed have a height of 28.1 metres.

A variance of 16.1 metres was requested, and granted, for these features.

The main building has a height of 17.7 metres. A variance of 5.7 metres was requested, and granted.

Kirsten Jensen, secretary/treasurer of the committee of adjustment, said as of Thursday there's a 20-day appeal period to van Velzen's application.

"If anyone is in opposition to the proposal they can take it to the Ontario Municipal Board. After that 20 days, the application is considered finalized," she said.

"From that point forward, it goes to a site-plan agreement process, which usually takes about four to six months. That's where they work out all the minor details about how the building will be created."

Jensen said because the proposed new building is going to be "so architecturally unique, they're going to need a little bit more height," which was why the minor variances were requested.

"It's going to still be a low-rise building, so it's acceptable for the area. It's just that the building is very unique shaped — it's going to have faux smoke stacks to represent the ship and it's going to have a bow out front that is going to raise a little bit higher than the main building area."

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Trump presidency a crisis for Canada, says prof

GRANT LAFLECHE
postmedia network

Donald Trump's swearing in as the 45th president of the United States Friday will be a celebratory event for his supporters — but represents a "crisis for Canada," says a Brock University political science professor.

Speaking Tuesday night at the St. Catharines central library downtown, during the "Rise of Trumpism" discussion panel, Prof. Blayne Haggart said Canada cannot assume that the incoming Trump administration will share the same values Ottawa has historically depended on from the U.S.

"We've taken for granted that the United States shares the same kinds of values Canadians do and, for the most part, that has been the case for the last couple of hundred years," Haggart said.

"That just might not be the case any longer."

Trump appears to favour a strident, pro-America, protectionist trade policy that could deeply hurt the Canadian economy. But while heavy tariffs will undoubtedly also harm American businesses, that might not factor into Washington's decision-making, he said.

It is a mistake, Haggart said, to regard Canada's relationship with the United States as a friendship and that the deeply intertwined economies of both nations will protect Canada from protectionist trade policies.

"Countries cannot be friends," he said. "(Justin) Trudeau's policy seems to be that we can plead our worth to Trump and appeal to his business sense, but that isn't going to work."

Trump's history of failed businesses and ego-driven politics suggest there isn't a business acumen to appeal to, he said.

Brock political science professors Leah Bradshaw and Stefan Dolgert were also part of Tuesday's panel and presented equally pessimistic views of what a Trump presidency could mean for Canada.

Dolgert said Trump's approach to international affairs is based on a "cartel" model, much like organized crime groups negotiating for territory.

In that model, he said, only the biggest players matter.

Both Dolgert and Bradshaw said Canada has neither the power nor the influence to be considered a major player by Trump.

Bradshaw said the election of Trump may signal a larger, systematic problem with American democracy itself. His climb to power could represent a wide rejection of the liberal, democratic values and the international "human rights agenda" that has been at the foundation of western democracies for decades.

"I don't think Trump is unique, and I think we will see more politicians like him," she said.

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GRANT LAFLECHE/STANDARD STAFF

Brock University professor Blayne Haggart discusses Donald Trump at a panel discussion at the central St. Catharines library on Tuesday.

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Livestock disease-carrying insect in Ontario

DON FRASER
Postmedia network

It was a disease incursion in September 2015 that injected fear into the farming industry and resulted in lost revenue.

That's when a potentially devastating sheep livestock disease was confirmed to have entered the province.

A farm animal in Chatham-Kent tested positive for the bluetongue virus — a preventative response that followed cost farmers millions of dollars.

"They found a sero-positive cow, and it was their first finding," said Brock graduate student Adam Jewiss-Gaines. "They found it, and it got people moving.

"There had been outbreaks in Europe that have been extremely costly."

Now, Brock University researchers confirm an insect that can transmit the devastating virus has made its way to southern Ontario.

Jewiss-Gaines has found hundreds of Culicoides sonorensis — or the biting midge — after traps from Niagara to Chatham-Kent were examined.

According to a Brock release, the university team's investigation started in 2012, when Jewiss-Gaines found biting midges in a Thorold trap — a species not expected to be found here.

He and supervisor, medical entomologist Fiona Hunter, launched a project to see if the insect was within southern Ontario. Graduate student Larissa Barelli was also involved in the research and assisted with molecular work.

In 2013, Jewiss-Gaines then found biting midges in traps from Niagara to Sarnia.

"I found the Culicoides sonorensis, which is the vector for bluetongue virus," he said. "And it wasn't previously thought to exist here."

Further traps in southwestern Ontario the next year caught more of those insects.

The discoveries troubled researchers who previously thought biting midges could not overwinter here.

"It's very likely that we have a vector for bluetongue (in Ontario) now," said Jewiss-Gaines.

Then, in September 2015, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency reported the Chatham-Kent farm animal had tested positive for bluetongue.

The result was a hit to the affected livestock industry which faced a temporary halt in international export transportation of live ruminants, including exports of bull sperm.

Cattle, goats and elk can be infected, but show few symptoms and act as hosts for the midge and lead to a spread to other livestock.

The implication — if bluetongue becomes an issue in Ontario, it can cause "problems for farmers, with respect to specifically sheep," Jewiss-Gaines said, adding deer can also be affected.

According to the release, biting midges are not strong fliers, but wind currents from the U.S. may have brought the insect to the area.

Another possibility is they arrived with a shipment of farm materials or livestock.

The biting midge can carry the virus, which causes suffering and death, primarily in sheep and deer.

Symptoms include fever, a swelling of the nasal/mouth area, a swollen, purple-coloured tongue, difficulty breathing and death.

Some animals bleed at the feet.

PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE STANDARD

Brock University graduate student Adam Jewiss-Gaines recently had a research paper in the Journal of Medical Entomology.

"There are indirect issues ... when animals get this disease," Jewiss-Gaines said. "It will also cause them to have to go though a lot of quarantine procedures, so it's hard to transport animals in and out of the farm, specifically out of the country.

Preventive measures include keeping livestock in barns in later hours when the midges are most active, and putting screens on barn windows.

Jewiss-Gaines said biting midges in general need to be studied further.

"A lot of focus obviously goes to mosquitoes as they can transmit human (and other) diseases ... but I feel like biting midges need to be focused on more," he said.

The team's related research paper, "First Records of Culicoides sonorensis (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae), a Known Vector of Bluetongue Virus, in Southern Ontario," was published in the *Journal of Medical Entomology* and can be seen online at http://bit.ly/2iMopqU.

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Rockin' return to Niagara for Roper

JOHN LAW
Postmedia Network

He calls it a "Bad Ass Rock Show," but when Jesse Roper rolls into Taps Brewery Saturday it'll be something else: A homecoming.

Of sorts.

Though the rugged West Coast rocker spent a year living in Niagara Falls, his roots are more family-oriented. His cousins are local florist Bruce Vandersluys and photographer Charlie Vandersluys.

"I have so many fond memories," he says of his one-year Falls stint in 2012. "It was such a building year in my life. I'd never really done anything like that before — I'd always been a little bit chicken to get away from my safety net.

"It was a good year of growth and learning, and I'd never met that side of the family before."

Born in the small community of Metchosin, B.C., Roper took to the guitar early but rarely performed because of his stage fright. Thinking a career as a professional musician was a long shot, he bounced from job to job — including as a painter — before buckling down on music in 2009. His bluesy power trio The Roper Show quickly gained a following in B.C., but it was his sojourn to Niagara Falls which really kick started things.

After breaking up with his girlfriend, he decided he needed a change of scenery.

"I needed to get out of town and experience some real life," he says. "I'd never really left Victoria."

He joined some friends who had a band during Canadian Music Week, then asked to join them as a roadie for their tour. Along the way he met a girl who pushed him to take his own music more seriously. He relocated to Niagara Falls, where his career found its footing.

He moved back to B.C. after a year to be with his sick grandmother. The clubs and festival gigs followed, as did some national press: "Life kind of took off."

The gigs to play his original music started overtaking his cover shows. His 2015 album *Red Bird* was up for best blues recording at the West Coast Music Awards.

"Looking back, I had absolutely nothing going on except for the odd random gigs. I'm really glad to see it where it is now."

Roper formed a "bond" with his Niagara Falls family and tries to get back to the city once a year, despite the hefty travel costs.

"But it's exciting this time around because I always played solo in Niagara Falls. I never had a band. This is the first time I've been able to bring a band out there and put on a show."

jlaw@postmedia.com

SUPPLIED PHOTO

Jesse Roper has a bead on Taps Brewery this Saturday.

Who: Jesse Roper, with Rafik Guirguis and Patrick Vandersluys
Where: Taps Brewery, 4680 Queen St., Niagara Falls
When: Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Admission: Free

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Battler instrumental in two wins for Meteors

KRIS DUBE
Special to the Times

Fort Erie Meteors goalie Shayne Battler stopped a total of 92 shots, earned a shutout and scored a goal during last weekend's back-to-back games.

The Jr. B squad silenced the Thorold Blackhawks 3-0 on Friday with all three goals scored by forward Daylon Groulx. His first marker and was assisted by Chase White and Alexander Walters.

Groulx's goal in the second was scored on the powerplay with help from Bryce Martin and Dakota Miskolczi.

In the third period, he completed the hat trick on a goal assisted by Alexander Walters and Miskolczi.

Goaltender Battler stopped all 42 shots he faced.

On Saturday night, against the Niagara Falls Canucks and in front of a hometown crowd, the Meteors won 4-1 and Battler had another career night – stopping 50 of 51 shots and scoring an empty net, shorthanded goal to cap off his team's 4-1 win.

Groulx also continued his scoring streak by lighting the lamp in the first period on the powerplay, assisted by Bryan Zurowski and Somerville.

Cail Cirillo scored in the second frame, with Brady Lee and Somerville assisting.

Miskcolczi scored the Meteors' third goal, assisted by Cullen Kane.

The Meteors will visit Pelham on Friday and host the Welland Jr. Canadians on Saturday night at 7:15 p.m.

Currently in the sixth spot of a nine-team division, the Meteors have 34 points with 17 wins and 22 losses.

Winter Worship Services

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Fossils preserved at this church signify a closeness with God's creation entrusted to humans, tokens of native worship at this site, a sacred meadow or "zawdoom" of prehistoric times. The large stone baptismal font is a natural formation covered in shells from an era when water covered the earth.

Worship of the creator is featured in a framed fish fossil brought to this inland site and found by a local farmer when he was a boy, a potent symbol for Christians too. The massive stone altar and the welcoming inukshuk will be considered later in this series.

Sunday worship service 11:00 am; only minutes to Sodom Rd, Ft. Erie, just north of Stevensville, QEW exits 16 & 17.

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Vern Benner is one of the volunteers who keeps the Fort Erie Sports Memorabilia and Research Centre running at the Leisureplex. Benner was inducted onto the Fort Erie Sports Wall of Fame in 2008 for his career in baseball.

Local sports greats celebrated at museum

KRIS DUBE
Special to the Times

Fort Erie, a community rich in sports history, has two shrines at the Leisureplex highlighting its heritage.

The Fort Erie Sports Wall of Fame has existed locally since 1980 but the Fort Erie Sports Memorabilia Gallery and Research Centre, an extension of the Heritage Arts Legacy of Fort Erie, only opened its doors a little more than a year ago.

Located in the former hockey equipment store at the arena, the museum pays tribute to successful teams and athletes who competed in all types of sports during many different eras.

Hanging on the walls are game-worn sweaters from former NHL players such as Mike Lalor and Randy Burridge.

Olympic badminton player Charmaine Reid, Memorial Cup winner Trevor Parkes, NHL linesman Brad Kovachik re also represented – there is a full field of skill on display for the community and visitors to enjoy, says Vern Benner, one of the volunteers who helps keep the room open.

"For a town this small, there is a lot of talent that went on to do great things," said Benner, an inductee onto the Wall of Fame in 2008.

He signed a contract with the Cleveland Indians in 1958 and played two seasons in the organization's farm system until a serious knee injury ended his professional career.

Benner is part of a six-person committee that organizes the museum and digs up new information by combing through issues of the Fort Erie Times (Times-Review) that date back to 1943.

"We're really expanding on what we already have out here," he said.

Members of the committee also hope family members of late sports greats from Fort Erie would consider bringing in jerseys or other collectibles to put on display.

There is even a bat signed by former Blue Jays Slugger Joe Carter as well as a stick used by Eric Lindros, who was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame last year.

An open house is being planned for May 5 as well as a July golf tournament to support the museum, which is open to the public when there are hockey tournaments and other events taking place on weekends.

For more information email feheritagesports@outlook.com.

The group can also be found on Facebook.

Classifieds

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Miscellaneous

Help Wanted Part Time

Dependable person to work in store handling cash, customer service, sorting, lifting and able to manage stairs to put away reserve items. Pick up application at store. Submit with personal resume.

St. Vincent De Paul Store
36 Jarvis St. Fort Erie

St. Vincent De Paul

36 Jarvis St. 905-871-0203
Used furniture, clothing & household items
Drop off between 10am - 4pm
(After hours drop offs disappear)
We will pick up large items Sat. mornings

WANTED Guns, pistols, rifles in your closet. PAL, Estates, Military swords 905-321-3562

Apartments

FOR RENT

2 bdrm apt. $850 util. incl., 106 Murray St. 289-696-5920

Employment Wanted

Clothing Alterations & Repairs 905-401-7474

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Location	Info Sessions (No need to call ahead)
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PORT COLBORNE, Pt. Colborne HS., 211 Elgin St, or call: 905-835-1186 ext.64242	**Wednesday Feb. 1** 1:00p.m., Room 321

Learn and get **MS Office Certified!** Windows, Internet, Graphics, Web Page, Multimedia, and more! Gain job skills, work experience, and if needed earn credits! (each site may vary in programs offered)
Adult & Community Education 905-687-7000

DSBN DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

General Help Wanted

The Fort Erie Times

ROUTES AVAILABLE

Fort Erie
Emerick, Highland - 47 papers
Highland, Bowen - 55 papers
Albert, part of Dominion - 70 papers

Crescent Park
Parkdale, Ferndale - 75 papers
Lakeview, Phillips - 42 papers

Ridgeway
Hershey, Hibbard, South Mill - 54 papers
Prospect, Hazel - 40 papers

Crystal Beach
Lincoln, Cambridge, Derby - 55 papers
Glendale, Fairfield, Griffin - 51 papers

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Contact Petrina at 905-871-3100 ext. 1 or *PIstok@postmedia.com*

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Careers

FORT ERIE ONTARIO — Our Focus: Your Future

Admin Assistant, Infrastructure Services

You will apply your technical knowledge of office administration, office equipment, computers and MS Office software applications to provide clerical and administrative support, greet visitors and answer enquiries in our busy Engineering Division. Customer focused, you demonstrate solid written and verbal communication skills in an environment of teamwork and co-operation.

Fort Erie...a welcoming, prosperous connected community of choice

Learn more at www.forterie.ca. The deadline for receiving applications is 12:00 Noon on **Monday, February 6, 2017.** The Town of Fort Erie is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation is available to candidates upon request.

FORT ERIE ONTARIO — Our Focus: Your Future

Senior Building Inspector

Reporting to the Chief Building Official, you will perform plans examination, inspection, enforcement and advisory services in accordance with the *Building Code Act*, municipal by-laws and other related legislation. Among other things, this includes processing applications, calculating fees, checking zoning, conducting site inspections and customer support.

If you are looking for an opportunity to learn and grow and promote positive change in a friendly, safe environment, we'd love to hear from you!

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Careers | Careers | Careers | Careers

FORT ERIE ONTARIO
Our Focus: Your Future

Fire Service Employment Opportunities

Fire Chief

As Fire Chief/Community Emergency Management Coordinator, you will lead by example, coaching and motivating a dedicated team of 135 volunteers and five full-time staff in the delivery of fire and emergency services. Being a skilled manager of budgets and resources and a strong communicator, you will facilitate consensus and teambuilding across a five-station department to achieve common goals.

Deputy Fire Chief

As Deputy Fire Chief, you will assist in leading and directing the delivery of fire and emergency services and perform the statutory duties of Fire Chief in his/her absence. In particular, the Deputy Fire Chief is directly responsible for the development, planning and delivery of training programs.

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General Help Wanted | General Help Wanted | General Help Wanted | General Help Wanted

The Fort Erie Times

Trouble shooter required in the Crescent Park area to deliver down routes. Deliveries to mailboxes only. If interested, contact Petrina at 905-871-3100 ext. 524201 or *PIstok@postmedia.com*

Immediate openings for hardworking, dedicated Customer Service Associates in the Fort Erie area for Full Time /Part Time positions. Banking experience helpful but not necessary. Good Pay $$ and benefits, must be available to work some evenings and weekends. Please email resume to Pfreeman11317@gmail.com

PLACE AN AD

Legals | Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All claims against the estate of **MAUREEN COLLINS**, also, know as **MAUREEN LEONA COLLINS**, late of the Town of Fort Erie in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on or about the 12th day of January, 2017, must be filed with the undersigned Estate Trustee on or before the 28th day of February, 2017; thereafter, the undersigned will distribute the assets of the said estate having regard only to the claims then filed.
DATED at Fort Erie this 20th day of January, 2017.
JULIE COLLINS, Estate Trustee, by her Solicitor, **HAGAN LAW FIRM**,
29 Jarvis Street,
P.O. Box 68,
Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 5M6.
905-871-4440

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Coming Events | Coming Events

ALZHEIMER Society Niagara Region Support Groups for Care Partners meets first Thursday of each month 1:00-2:30pm Residence on Garrison, 373 Garrison Rd. Fort Erie. 905-687-3914

EUCHRE PARTY
Sat. Jan. 28th, 7pm
Br. # 230 Ridgeway Legion,
228 South Mill St., downstairs
Prizes. Full lunch.
Tickets at the door - $7.00
Hosted by: Ladies Auxiliary

Obituaries | Obituaries

PETER WRIGHT
August 18, 1931 - January 21, 2017

Beloved husband and best friend of 60 yrs. to Margaret Wright (deceased 2015)

He will be lovingly remembered by his children, Christine Dezainde (Norman), Steven Wright (Kim), Charlotte Matthews (Dave) & Brian Wright (Crystal). Cherished by his many grandchildren and great grandchildren

Memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at 1:00 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion, 130 Garrison Road, Fort Erie. Donations can be made at *http://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca/en.html* Arrangements entrusted to Niagara *Funeral Alternatives*, 905-894-0120

Obituaries | Obituaries

GILSON, Doris -
Peacefully at Crescent Park Lodge, Fort Erie on January 23rd, 2017 at 85 years of age. Loving mother of Richard, Betty, Larry Gilson and Judy Crampton and grandmother of many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Sadly missed by her brother Bruce Sumbler and sister Edna Hodgson. Predeceased by her husband Nelson and his son Butch and her brothers Robert, Bill and Fred Sumbler. **WILLIAMS FUNERAL SERVICES**, Ridgeway entrusted with private arrangements. Cremation has taken place.

KINSMAN, Betty R.
(Lawes) (Lee) (nee Kennedy) -
Peacefully on Saturday, January 21, 2017 at Garrison Place at the age of 92. She was predeceased by her loving husbands Jack Lawes, Gordon Lee and Marvin Kinsman and by her loving son James Lee. Beloved mother of Wayne (Helga) Lawes and Sharon (Robert) Ott and mother-in-law to Noreen Lee. Cherished Grandma Lee to Michael and Steven McGuire, Kevin (Shannon) Lawes, Kristina (Sean) Quinn, Scott (Danna) Lee and Colleen Lee (Brendan). Adored great-grandmother of 8 great-grandchildren and dear sister to Hazel Opie. Betty will be missed by her many nephews and nieces, especially her niece and best friend Maxine and many more dear friends. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave, Fort Erie, has been entrusted with arrangements. A service to celebrate Betty's life was held et Garrison Road Church, 1351 Garrison Road, Fort Erie on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 11 a.m. Burial followed at McAffee Cemetery. In memory of Betty, those who wish may donate to the Juvenile Diabetes or to the charity of their choice.

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Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

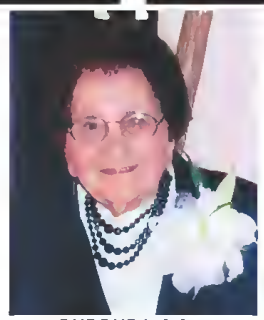
Obituaries

SHORE, Geraldine M. -

Peacefully on January 21st, 2017, at Gilmore Lodge in Fort Erie. Gerry passed away in her 101st year. Predeceased by her husband Reymond, son Richard and son-in-law Jim Gray. Loving mother of Diane Gray and mother–in-law of Freda Shore. Cherished grandmother of 6 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and 1 graat-great-grandchild. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES,** 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with the private errangements. Cremation has taken place. In memory of Gerry donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

WOEHL, Kenneth Russell -

Passed away peacefully at the West Parry Sound Health Centre, on Friday, January 13th, 2017. Age 64 years. Beloved husband of Peggi. Loving son of Ethel and the late Russell Woehl. Dear father of Jennifer and her husband John Pennacchio; and Matthew and his wife Diana. Cherished "Poppy" of John Russell, Jacob and Joshua Pennacchio; and Grandpa of Adam and Natalie Woehl. Dear brother of Ellen and her husband Kevin Collis. Fondly remembered by his nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends. Cremation has taken place. A special thank you to the Dunchurch community for their love and support. A Celebration of Ken's Life will take place on Saturday, February 4th, from 1:00 - 4:00 P.M. at the **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME, RIDGEWAY.** A second Celebration of Ken's Life will take place on Sunday, February 12th, from 1:00 - 4:00 P.M. at the Dunchurch Royal Canadian Legion, Branch # 394. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Dunchurch Legion Branch #394, or the Whitestone Hagerman Memorial Library "Future Endeavors Program" would be appreciated.



PURPURA, Iole -

Iole passed away peacefully on January 19th, 2017 at the Douglas Memorial Hospital in Fort Erie in her 104th year. Predeceased by her husband M. Martin "Peanuts Loving" mother of Bart (Bonnie), Vincent (Lynda), the Late Angela Purpura end the Late Linda Everts. Cherished mother-in-law of Bob Everts. She leaves behind her grandchildren Dino (Cheryl), Nick (Helen), Tony, Shari (Dave), Kimberly (Jamie), Daniel, Kristen (Tino) and Kelly with wonderful memories to treasura. Always loved by great-grandchildren Bailee (Eric), Ethan, Sebastian, Zed, Kassandra, Jeremy and Sophia. Iole was a great-great-grandmother to William and was looking forward to the birth of another great-great-grandchild soon. She is also survived by her and many nieces, nephews and her extendad family. Predeceased by her sisters Maria and Adele. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES,** 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family will receive friends on Sunday January 29th from 2 - 4 and 7 - 9. Funeral Mass will be held et St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church on Monday January 30th at 11 am. Interment to follow in Graenwood Cemetery. If so desired, donations to the Douglas Memorial Hospital Auxiliary for the benefit of the Palliative Care Unit or your favourite charity would be appreciated.

REICHELT, Janice Mary Elizabeth (nee Rogers) -

Surrounded by the presence and love of her family Janice went to be with her Lord and Saviour on Wednasday January 18, 2017 at the age of 79. Loving wife of Neil. She leaves wonderful memories with her children Heather (Tom) Light, Kevan (Dorie Ellen) Reichelt and Kathleen Reichelt (Wes). Cherished grandmother to Hilary (Adam) Michalowicz, Alex (Julia) Reichelt, Shannon (Tim) Langendoen, Allyson, Kirstyn, Stevan Reichelt and the late Andrew Reichelt. Sadly missed by siblings Richard (Karen) Rogers of Fort Erie, Hugh (Eleanor) Rogers of St. Catharines, Carol (Orville) Sider of St. Catharines and Walter Rogers of Vineland. Predeceased by her parents Wesley and Mary Rogers. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES,** 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family will receive friends at the Funeral Home on Sunday January 22nd from 2-4 & 7-9. Funeral to be hald Monday January 23rd at 11 am with visitation baginning at 10 at the Faith Reformed Church (3805 Black Creek Rd.) Stevensville. Interment to take place et McAffee Cemetery with a luncheon to follow at the Faith Reformed Church Fellowship Hall.

OAKLEY, Sandra Jean -

On Wednesdey January 18, 2017, Sendy passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family, at the age of 59. Loving partner of Ken Heckman for 39 years. Beloved stepmother to Patty Pellerin and Kimm Heckman. Special Gramma Sandy to Amanda and Trevor (Celina) Pellerin. She will be missed by older brother Roy Oakley. Predeceased by her parents Cy and Jean Oakley. Best friend to her loving dog Summit. Special Aunt to Kathy Biller. She will be greatly missed by special friends Carol, Karen, Julie and Marlene. Sandy had a passion for camping and always had room for ice cream. She loved working as a PSW for Paramed. She worked at Fleet Industries for 28 years. Through her love of animals Sandy made many lasting friandships and memories. Community involvement was an important part of her life, especially her time with the Stevensville Kinettes. A celebration of life will be held on January 28, 2017 from 12:30PM to 4PM at Fort Erie Conservation Club, 2555 Ott Road in Stevensville. Donations to the Fort Erie SPCA would be appreciated. Arrangaments entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES,** 905-894-0120.

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Death Notices

SIMONSON, Ronald -After a prolonged illness, Ronald died peacefully January 18, 2017 at Crascent Park Lodga. Ha is survived by wife Joan (Sybbald), son Ron Jr. and daughter Debbie Swartz. Especially missed by grandson Ashton and granddaughter Kennedy. A very special thank you to Carolyn Kalckreuth and Eryn Breton. As per Ronald's request, cremation has taken place and a private family ceremony will be held.

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In Memoriams

Craig Morgan
In loving memory of our dear son and brother who passed away one year ago.

You were ready to spread your wings but
we were not ready to open our hearts
Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard but always near.
Deeply loved, greatly missed...
til me meet again,
Mom & Dad, Eric, Meghan and Tekka

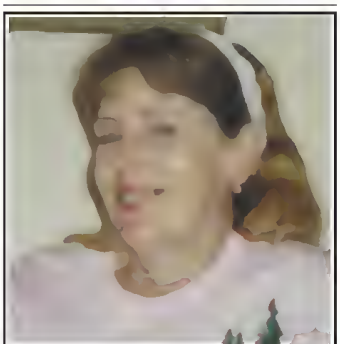
In Loving Memory of our Mother
SALLY KOWALSKI
January 26, 2011

Mom: You're missed everyday.
And always and forever loved.

Karen, Kathy, Terry & Linda

In Loving Memory of my Wife
SALLY KOWALSKI
January 26, 2011

Every day in some small way
I miss you more than words can say.
In my heart you will always stay
Loved and remembered every day.
Your Loving Husband, Fred



Margaret "Sue" Kingsley
March 13, 1942 - January 26, 2014

In Loving Memory & Celebration
of someone who made this world
a brighter and better place.

Sadly missed children,
grandchildren & great-grandchildren.

In loving memory of
Wayne Peck
March 19, 1925 - February 4, 1977

Dad, it's so very hard to believe that it has been 40 years since I last heard your voice and laughter. There have been so many changes to your family since you left, but your loving arms have always been around all of us. You were with us for all of the graduations, weddings, when each of your grandchildren were born and when your 3 great granddaughters arrived. Your love and strength were there for us when we lost our dear Mom Mabel and then again when we had to endure the unbearable pain of losing our loving brother Wayne. I hope that we have all made you proud Dad and that you, Mom, and Wayne will continue to smile down at each one of us every day.
Until we meet again. Love Sally

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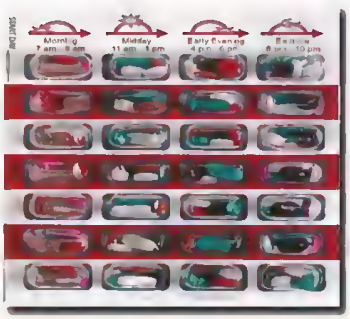

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